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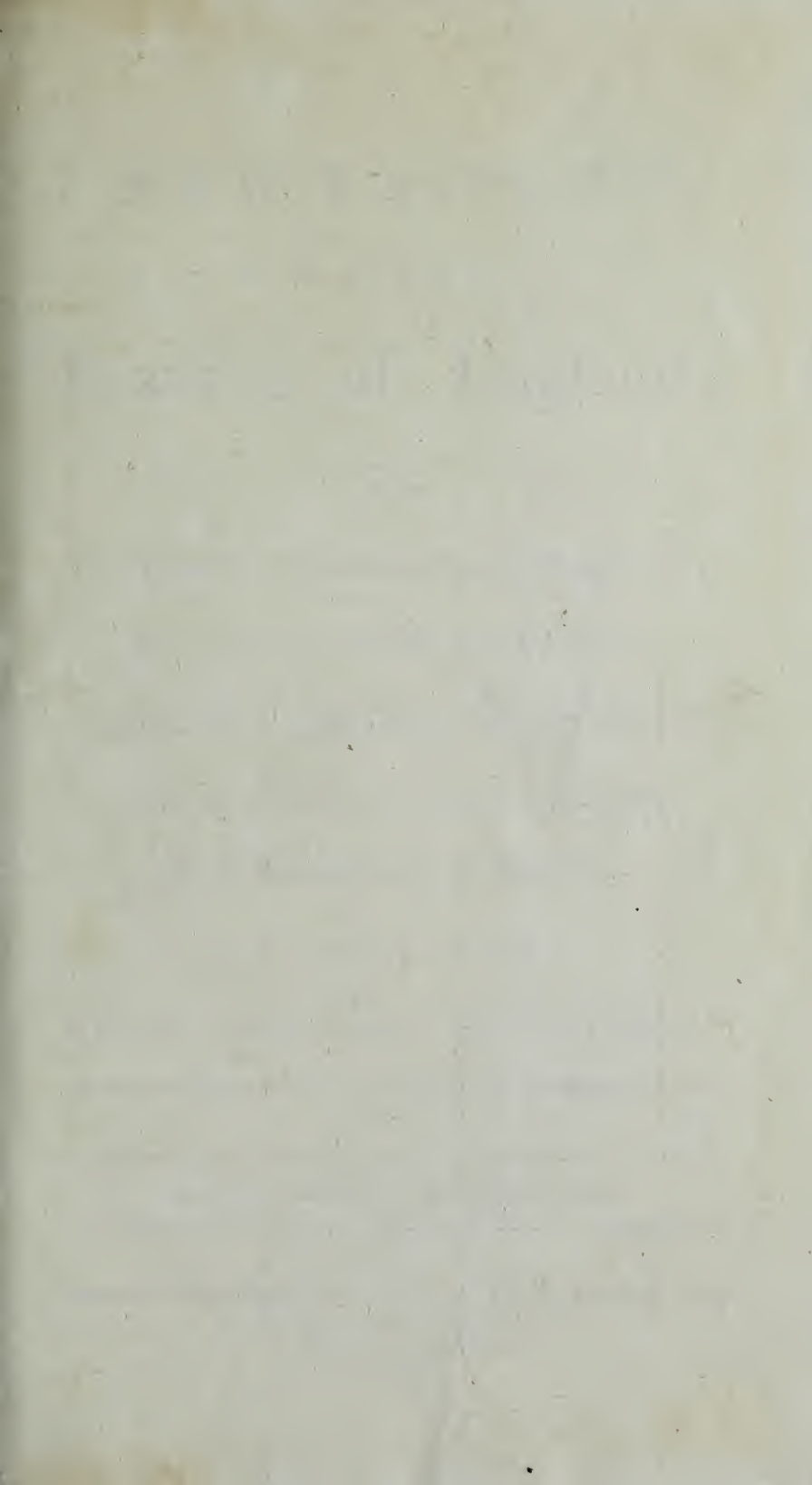
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# NEW DISPLAY

## OF THE

# Beauties of England;

OR,

A Description of the most Elegant or Magnificent

PUBLIC EDIFICES, ROYAL PALACES,

NOBLEMEN'S and GENTLEMEN'S SEATS,

*And other CURIOSITIES, natural or artificial,*

In the different Parts of the Kingdom.

ADORNED WITH

*A Variety of COPPER-PLATE CUTS, neatly engraved.*

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V O L. I.

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A NEW EDITION, Revised and Enlarged.

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NEW DISPLAY

OF THE

Beauties of England;

as they appeared in the year 1780.

By the Editor, Royal Palace,

London, and elsewhere, 1780.

A new Edition, with additions,

and corrections, 1780.

By the same Author.

London, 1780.

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Printed by J. B. Smith, in the Strand, near St. Dunstons Church.



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## P R E F A C E.

**I**T is presumed this work will be found an agreeable companion for those who may occasionally visit different parts of England, in order to take a view of the many fine palaces and seats with which this kingdom is decorated, descriptions of which are given in this work; and also an account of the cities, towns, and most remarkable villages. Those who may not have an opportunity of personally visiting those delightful retreats, may yet receive no inconsiderable degree of satisfaction from those accounts

counts and views of them which are given in this publication.

A variety of corrections and additions are made in the present edition ; and, in order to render the work more complete, an account is now first introduced of the cities of London and Westminster, and the Borough of Southwark, as well as of the principal buildings which they contain.





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A

# NEW DISPLAY

OF THE

## Beauties of England, &c.

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**N**OTHING is more natural than a desire of being acquainted with whatever is most beautiful, remarkable, or curious in our own country. If we are pleasingly gratified with descriptions of foreign countries, surely the curiosities of our native land cannot be less worthy our attention. ENGLAND is not only endeared to us by our connection with it, but has a just claim to our regard from the great variety of natural and artificial curiosities with which it abounds. It is the favourite residence of plenty and of freedom, of wealth and of commerce; and the many advantages and excellencies with which nature has liberally endowed it, have been aided by the indefatigable industry of the inhabitants, which is sufficiently evinced by the high degree of cultivation which appears in almost every part of the kingdom.

Though the air of England is for the most part thick and heavy, and the weather very precarious, and often extremely foggy; yet even this variety of weather is attended with considerable advantages: for, in the first place, it secures the island from those extremes of heat and cold to which other nations, though within the same degree of latitude, are annually exposed; and it is in a great measure owing to this moderation of the climate, that the inhabitants of this island

A

live

live to as great an age as in any part of Europe whatsoever. And that perpetual verdure for which England is remarkable, and for which it is greatly admired by all foreigners who come hither, is occasioned by the refreshing showers, and the warm vapours of the sea.

With respect to the climate of England, there is an observation concerning it that was made by King Charles the Second, as we are informed by Sir William Temple, that deserves to be remembered. "I must needs add one thing, (says Sir William) in favour of our climate, which I heard the King say, and I thought new and right, and truly like a King of England that loved and esteemed his own country. It was in reply to some company that were reviling our climate, and extolling those of Italy and Spain, or at least of France. He said, *He thought that was the best climate where he could be abroad in the air with pleasure, or at least without trouble or inconvenience, the most days of the year, and the most hours of the day; and this he thought he could be in England more than in any country he knew in Europe.* And I believe (adds Sir William) it is true, not only of the hot and the cold, but even among our neighbours in France and the Low Countries themselves, where the heats or the colds, and changes of seasons, are less treatable than they are with us."

It has been justly observed, that no country in the world can equal the cultivated parts of England for the great number of beautiful scenes with which it is adorned. The variety of high-lands and low-lands, the former gently swelling, and both of them forming prospects equal to the most luxuriant imagination, the corn and meadow ground, the intermixtures of inclosures and plantations, the noble seats, comfortable houses, chearful villages, and well-stocked farms, often rising in the neighbourhood of populous towns and cities, decorated with the most vivid colours of nature, afford an inexpressible pleasure.

For the sake of method, and to enable the reader to turn to any particular county which he may wish to see the description of with the greater ease, we intend to treat of the counties in an alphabetical order, and therefore shall begin with Bedfordshire.



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## B E D F O R D S H I R E .

**T**HIS county is bounded on the south by Hertfordshire ; on the north by Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire ; on the east by Cambridgeshire ; and on the west by Buckinghamshire. It is about twenty-two miles in length, fifteen in breadth, and seventy-three in circumference. It contains nine hundreds, ten market-towns, and one hundred and twenty-four parishes, five hundred and fifty villages, and about two hundred and sixty thousand acres. This county, on the north side of the river Ouse is fruitful and woody, on the south side it is less fertile. It produces wheat and barley in great abundance, and of an excellent kind, and it has forests and parks, well stocked with deer, and fat pastures with cattle. The air is pure and healthy, and the soil in general a deep clay. The principal rivers of this county are the Ouse and the Iwell. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Lincoln.

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### M A R K E T T O W N S .

BEDFORD is forty-eight miles from London, and is the county-town, being a clean, well-built, and populous place. The town, as well as the county, is divided into two parts by the river Ouse, which crosses it in the direction of east and west ; the north and south parts of the town are joined by a stone bridge, which has two gates. The assizes are always held here ; and the town is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, two chamberlains, and other officers. There are five churches here, three on the north, and two on the south side of the river. The chief of them, and indeed the principal ornament of the town, is St. Paul's, which had once a college of prebendaries. There was a famous castle here, which was demolished in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, and the scite is now a bowling-green : It

stands high and pleasant, and is reckoned one of the finest in England.

There is a good free-school in this town, which was founded by Sir William Harpur, lord mayor of London in the reign of queen Elizabeth. This gentleman was a native of Bedford, and now lies buried in one of the churches. Near the free-school are two ancient hospitals for lazars, and an alms-house for eight poor persons, besides a charity-school for forty children, partly endowed, and partly supported by voluntary subscription. But the most considerable provision made for the poor of Bedford, was a field where Bedford-Row stands, behind Gray's Inn, London, which, at the time the donation was made, produced only a small rent, but now, by the increase of buildings, and the expiration of leases, is become extremely valuable. It was given to the town, that the rents might be applied to the portioning young women when they entered into the marriage state, and to put out poor children as apprentices. If this large estate be managed with judgment and integrity, it may be rendered a charitable institution of a very extensive and beneficial nature.

Bedford sends two members to parliament, who are chosen by all the freemen, the mayor being the returning officer. The liberties of the corporation extend about nine miles round the town. There are some good inns here, and provisions of all sorts are in great plenty. There is a lace manufactory here, which employs about five hundred women and girls.

*The Vale of Bedford*, which is a perfect flat tract of land for some miles round the town, is very rich in soil, and excellently cultivated, producing noble crops of wheat, barley, and turnips.

DUNSTABLE is a populous town, thirty-four miles from London, built on the spot where two Roman ways, called Watling-street and Icknild-street, cross each other; and Roman coins have sometimes been found here. The town is situated on a hill of chalk, just at the end of a long ridge of hills called *The Chiltern*. Here are four streets, answering to the four cardinal winds; and because of the dryness of the soil, where they cannot find springs, have each a pond, which, though only supplied by rain-water, are never dry. There are several good inns here. King Henry the First built and endowed a priory of black canons here; and the church of Dunstable is part of that which belonged to the priory, and is a noble Gothic







Gothic structure. There is a tomb-stone in this church, from which it appears, that a woman in the town had nineteen children at five births, having been delivered twice of five, and three times of three. There is a large manufactory of straw hats carried on in this town, and another of lace, by which almost all the poor women and girls are employed. There was formerly a royal palace here, which stood over against the church, and there are still some remains of it, which have been repaired and converted into a farm-house, still called Kingsbury. At the weekly market, which is on Wednesday, vast quantities of corn are sold. There are four fairs held here annually, namely, on Ash-Wednesday, the 22d of May, the 12th of August, and the 12th of November.

In a plain upon the top of the chalk hills, near Dunstable, is an area, of about eight or nine acres of land, vulgarly called *The Maiden's Bower*. Some have imagined it to have been a British camp, and others a work thrown up by the Danes. The rampart is high, and the Icknild street runs along the bottom of the hill. The road along the chalk-hill is extremely dangerous in frosty weather, and has occasioned many fatal accidents, both to men and horses; but some years ago the gentlemen of Bedfordshire entered into a subscription for sloping the hill, near the town, for the benefit of the road, and there are constantly employed a certain number of hands to keep it in order.

Dunstable is remarkable for larks, which are said to be in greater plenty, and of a larger size, near this town, than any where else in the kingdom.

WOUBURN is a small market-town, forty-three miles from London, and being situated on the road to Northampton, &c. contains many good inns. The whole town belongs to the Duke of Bedford, and that noble family have endowed here two charity schools. In 1724 about one hundred houses were burnt down, which are since nearly rebuilt; and a fine market-house has been erected, at the expence of the Duke of Bedford; so that the town now makes an handsome appearance. The principal trade of this place consists in the making of jockeys caps, and digging fuller's earth, of which there are great quantities in the neighbourhood.

AMPTHILL is a small market-town, forty-four miles from London, pleasantly situated between two hills, almost in the heart of Bedfordshire. Here is a charity-school, and an hospital



pital for ten poor men, who have each a considerable weekly allowance. This place is chiefly remarkable for a large mansion-house, which belongs also to the Duke of Bedford: It was repaired and fitted up in 1765, for the use of the late Marquis of Tavistock. It was first built by Sir John Cornwall, in the reign of king Henry the Sixth, out of the spoils taken from the French; but afterwards came by forfeiture to the crown. Queen Katherine of Arragon sometimes resided in this house, after her divorce from King Henry the Eighth. The hall is adorned with a capital collection of paintings by the best Italian masters, which the late Marquis of Tavistock collected whilst he was abroad on his travels.

LUTON is an handsome town in Bedfordshire, situated between two hills, at the distance of thirty-two miles from London. The inhabitants carry on a considerable manufactory of straw-hats. In the middle of the town is a good market-house, which on the market-day, which is Monday, is well furnished with corn, poultry, and other provisions; and there are two fairs held here, one on the 25th of April, and the other on the 18th of October.

BIGGLESWADE is a market-town, five miles from Bedford, and forty-five from London. It is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Ivel, over which there is a good stone bridge; and lighters come up with coals to the town. There was formerly a college for secular priests here. At present the town is in a flourishing condition, and has some good inns in it, being a great thoroughfare in the road from London to York. Its weekly market is on Tuesday, and it is reckoned one of the greatest in England for barley.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD is a small market-town, seven miles and an half from Dunstable, which has little in it that is remarkable; but its market is well stored with cattle, and its Whitsuntide fair with horses.

SHEFFORD is a small market-town, pleasantly situated between two rivulets, over each of which there is a bridge.

REMARKABLE



## REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &amp;c.

*Woburn Abbey*, the noble seat of the duke of Bedford, is in the neighbourhood of the town from whence it takes its name; and was originally built by Hugh Bolebec, a powerful baron in the reign of King Stephen. It was intended for the use of the monks of the Cistercian order, who came in great swarms into this kingdom in the twelfth century. At the dissolution of the monasteries the lands and manors belonging to this abbey were given to Sir John Russel, ancestor of the present duke; and this spacious and elegant house, which is situated in the middle of the park, is erected where the convent formerly stood.

The house forms a large quadrangle, with an handsome court in the center, fronting which is a large basin, supplied with water from its own springs. Behind are two large quadrangles of offices distinct from the house, which are very beautiful buildings; plain and simple, but extremely proper for their destination. They are built like the house, of white stone; and in the center of their principal front is a small dome, rising over a porticoed center, supported by Tuscan pillars, which have a very good effect.

In the house you enter first the hall, which is an handsome room, the ceiling of which is supported by eight pillars. The green drawing-room is extremely elegant: between the windows are fine glasses, and two very noble slabs of Egyptian marble. The chimney-piece is of white marble polished, and very handsome. In this room are pictures of the plagues of Egypt, David and Abigail, and a very fine landscape. What is called the decker-worked room contains a bed of uncommon elegance, of decker work lined with green silk. The work is exquisite, and the representation of the birds and beasts in it admirable. The chimney-piece is very elegant; the scroll of polished white marble in a light and elegant taste.

The dining-room is a very noble room. The chimney-piece is elegant, with a festoon of flowers carved in white marble, and finely polished. In the room are four large pictures of the battles of Alexander.—In the yellow drawing-room are two fine portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds, one of the late Marquis of Tavistock, and the other of the present Dutchess of Marlborough. The chimney-piece is very elegant, and the pier-glass frame finely carved of plated silver. Here is also a portrait of the late Duke of Bedford.

In

In the coffee-room is a small portrait of Francis, Earl of Bedford, which is exceedingly fine, the face and hands admirably painted. The grotto is pretty of its kind ; with bas-relief figures of rustic in shells, and fine china jars. The billiard-room is hung with very fine tapestry, designed from Raphael's cartoons. The Dutchess's dressing-room is extremely elegant, hung with embossed work on white paper, which has a very pleasing effect, The chimney-piece has a carved scroll in wood, the marble black and veined. The pier-glass is large, and the frame very elegant ; and over the chimney-piece is a portrait of Lady Ossory, by Hudson. The chairs and sofas are of painted taffeta.

The French bed-chamber is exceedingly elegant ; the bed and hangings are of very rich belmozeen silk. The chimney-piece is light and beautiful ; the cornice festoons of gilt carving on a white ground, and the cieling of the same on a lead ground ; the pier-glass and frame, and the frame of the landscape over the chimney are very elegant.

The dressing-room is likewise hung with the same silk, the cieling and cornice richly ornamented with scrolls of gilding on a white ground : the chimney-piece is all of white marble polished. The doors, door-cases, and window-shutters, &c. are all ornamented like the cieling, in white and gold. In this room are four very large blue and white china jars ; the two by the windows are uncommonly fine.

The state bed-chamber is most magnificently furnished. The bed and hangings are of very rich blue damask ; the cieling ornamented in compartments of rich gilding on a white ground. The chimney-piece, of marble polished, is very elegant ; and the carved and gilt ornaments around the landscape over it in a beautiful taste : the toilette is all of very handsome Dresden work, the glass frame, and boxes of gold. An India cabinet on each side of old Japan, with coloured china jars, exquisitely fine.

The dressing-room is hung with green damask ; the chimney-piece is very handsome, and the pier-glass fine. The drawing-room is exceedingly elegant ; the cieling a Mosaic pattern of rich carving on a white ground ; the chimney-piece excessively handsome, the cornice supported by double pillars, of very fine Siena marble. The pier-glasses immensely large, and in one plate ; under them most noble slabs of Siena marble. In this room are several exquisite paintings, particularly a landscape by Claude Lorraine, representing



ing a ship partly appearing from behind a building amazingly beautiful : the diffusion of light, the general brilliancy, and the harmony of the whole, are admirable. A holy family, very fine ; the turn of the boy's head is inimitable. A virgin and child ; the hair of the virgin's head, and her attitude, are most sweetly elegant and expressive. A Magdalen ; very fine. The inside of a church ; the minute expression of the architecture, and the rays of light are finely done. A rock, with the broken branches hanging from its clefts, supposed to be by Salvator ; the expression is very noble, and the romantic wildness of the scene most excellently represented. A holy family ; the child standing in the cradle ; a very pleasing picture. Joseph interpreting the dreams of Pharaoh, by Rembrandt ; most admirably executed, in a greater style than is common with this master. Rembrandt by himself ; inimitably done. The Dutchess of Bedford presenting Lady Caroline to Minerva, by Hamilton ; this is a very large picture, and some of the figures not inelegantly done for this master.

The saloon is most magnificently fitted up, and elegantly furnished ; the ceiling beautiful, of gilt carving on white ; the door-case finely carved and gilt, the cornices supported by Corinthian pillars in a noble, but light and pleasing style ; the chimney-piece of white marble, beautifully polished : in the centre hangs a magnificent lustre. Here is a fine picture representing the last supper ; the drawing is in a free and bold style ; and a fine piece of angels, supposed to be painted by Albano.

The second dining-room is a very noble room, the ceiling white and gold, and the chimney-piece very elegant, over which is a fine landscape.

The second drawing-room is very elegantly fitted up, and among other pictures contains two capital landscapes, morning and evening, by Marat ; two paintings of battles ; and one of lions, by Rubens.

The picture-gallery is ornamented by a vast number of elegant portraits of the Russel family ; and among those which are most finely executed, are the portraits of William Earl of Bedford, the Countess of Somerset, and Lady Catharine Brooke. The ornaments of this room are all carving, painted white. There are four statues here, one of which is a Venus of Medicis, and another Venus plucking a thorn out of her foot.



*Woburn Park* is one of the largest in the kingdom, being ten miles round, all walled in, and contains a great variety of hill and dale, with fine woods of the noblest oaks. We pass from the house through them towards the south, and look up the great glade, which is cut through the park for several miles, at the end of which appears a Chinese temple. Then winding through the woods we come to the dutchess's shrubbery, which contains sixteen acres of land, beautifully laid out in the modern taste, with many venerable oaks in it. From whence we advance to the hill at the north end, from which is a vast prospect into Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, and Bedfordshire. Turning down the hill to the left, the riding leads to the ever-green plantation of above two hundred acres of land, which little more than thirty years ago was a barren rabbit warren, but is now a very beautiful winter's ride, on a dry soil, with all kinds of evergreens, of a noble growth. About the middle, on the left hand side, is an handsome temple, retired and pleasing. At the end of this plantation we come to the lower water, which is about ten acres, and in the centre is an island with a very elegant and light Chinese temple, large enough for thirty people to dine in; and in the adjoining wood is a kitchen, and other accommodations for making ready the repasts the duke takes in the temple. In the front of the house is a large basin of water, in which are several handsome boats.

At a little distance from Luton is *Luton Hoo*, a fine seat belonging to the Earl of Bute. It is an elegant pile of building; and that nobleman has expended very considerable sums of money in ornamenting this retreat. The entrance to it is through a lodge facing the town of Luton, and the walk up to the house is along a fine artificial river, which was formerly nothing more than a small stream. On the right hand is a rising ground, whereon are some exceeding fine plantations; and on the left are a vast number of trees, planted so as to imitate nature, along the banks of the stream. The earl has caused an artificial lake to be made, and in the middle of it is a small island, to which you pass in a pleasure boat, and from whence the prospect is extensive and delightful. On the island are fine plantations of young trees; and as you advance towards the house, you pass through a fine rows of elms, and on each side are large clumps of beech, which add greatly to the beauty of the scene. Through these trees there is a  
fine

fine prospect of the neighbouring hills, fields, and cottages; whilst the towers and spires of steeples lead the spectator into a pleasing deception, by causing him to imagine that what he beholds is actually a rural city. In a pleasing valley, near the house, is a monumental pillar, elegantly executed in the Tuscan order, and seen to the greatest advantage through the trees, on the pedestal of which is the following inscription: "In memory of Mr. Francis Napier."

Near Silfoe is *Wrest House*, a magnificent seat, with a large park, which belonged to the ancient family of De Grey, Dukes of Kent. It now belongs to the Earl of Hardwicke, who acquired it by his marriage with Jemima Marchioness Grey, and Baroness Lucas, who is a peeress in her own right. In an hermitage here is the following inscription, which was written by a person who came on a visit to this agreeable retreat:

" Stranger, or guest, whome'er this hallow'd grove  
 " Shall chance relieve where sweet contentment dwells,  
 " Bring here no heart that with ambition swells,  
 " With av'rice pines, or burns with lawless love.  
 " Vice-tainted souls will all in vain remove  
 " To sylvan shades, and hermits peaceful cells;  
 " In vain will seek retirement's lenient spells,  
 " Or hope that bliss, which only good men prove.  
 " If heav'n-born truth, and sacred virtue's lore,  
 " Which cheer, adorn, and dignify the mind,  
 " Are constant inmates of thy honest breast;  
 " If, unrepining at thy neighbour's store,  
 " Thou count'st as thine the good of all mankind,  
 " Then, welcome, share the friendly groves of *Wrest*."

At *Houghton Park*, near Ampthill, the Earl of Upper Ossory has a fine seat, which was first built by the Countess of Pembroke. The house is a noble and venerable edifice, containing many fine rooms; and the gardens are laid out with much taste and magnificence. There is still a large pear-tree here, under which the celebrated Sir Philip Sydney is said to have written part of his *Arcadia*.

At a little distance from Shefford is *Chicksand Priory*, the seat of Sir George Osborne, baronet.

At *Southill*, in the neighbourhood of Shefford, is a fine seat of Lord Torrington's.



At *Clapham*, about two miles from Bedford, is a fine seat belonging to the Earl of Ashburnham; and near it is *Oakly*, a seat belonging to the Duke of Bedford.

At *Brumham*, which is on the west side of the river Ouse, Lord Trevor has a fine seat.

*Harewood*, or *Harold*, is a place of considerable antiquity, but is now reduced to a village. Here was formerly a nunnery of the order of St. Augustine. Part of the church is still remaining, and appears to have been a very elegant Gothic building.

There is a village called *Wardon*, near Biggleswade, where a monastery was founded for the monks of the Cistercian order, in the latter end of the reign of King Henry the First, which was endowed with lands to a considerable value.

*Cardington* is a very neat and agreeable village; most of the houses and cottages are new built, all of them tiled, and many of brick, which, with white pales and little plantations, have a most pleasing effect.

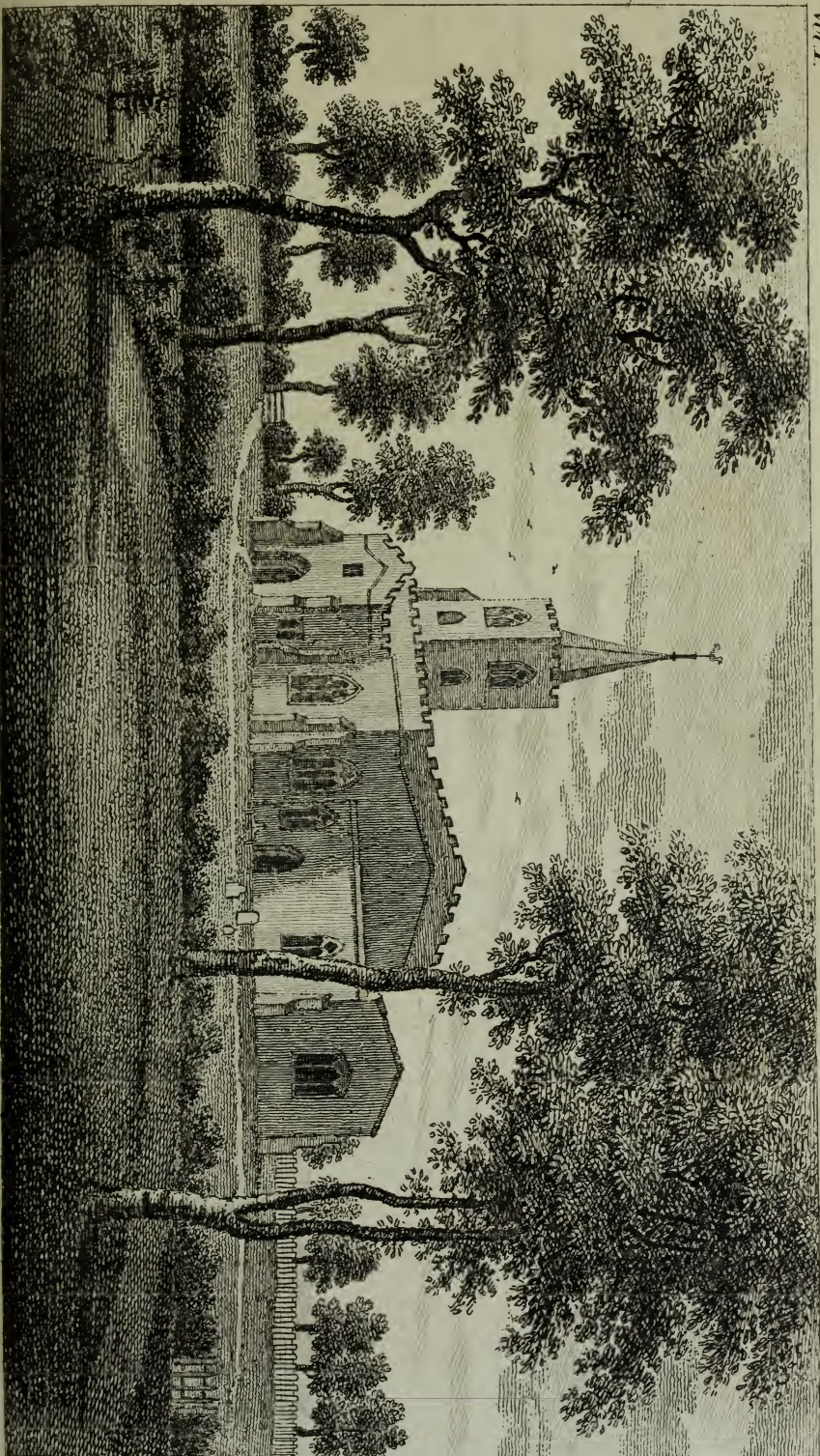
At *Northill* there is a very fine window in the chancel of the church, painted by Oliver; and the rector of that church has two small pieces of painted glass by the same master, which are of uncommon excellence.

The parish of *Sandy*, near Northill, is much noted for its gardens; there are above one hundred and fifty acres of land occupied by many gardeners, who supply the whole country, for many miles, with garden stuff, even to Hertford.

*Westoning* is a pleasant village, which has a venerable church that stands in an agreeable and rural situation. The earl of Pomfret has a seat here.

At a little distance from Wrest-House is the village of *Cop-hill*, which is a pretty rural place, not far from which is a fine seat belonging to Earl Granville, known by the name of *Hawnes*.









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## B E R K S H I R E.

**T**HIS county is bounded by Hampshire on the south ; by Wiltshire and Gloucestershire on the west ; by the river Thames (which divides it from Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire) on the north ; and on the east by Middlesex and Surrey. It is about thirty-nine miles long, twenty-nine broad, and one hundred and twenty in circumference ; and contains four parliamentary boroughs, twenty hundreds, twelve market towns, one hundred and forty parishes, and six hundred and seventy-one villages.

The air of this county is healthy even in the vales, and though the soil in general is not the most fertile, yet the appearance of the country is remarkably pleasant, being delightfully varied with wood and water, which are seen at once in almost every prospect. This county is well stored with timber, particularly oak and beech ; and some parts of it produce great quantities of wheat and barley. The whole of this county is in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Salisbury.

The river Thames washes more of this county than any other it touches ; and from this circumstance Berkshire derives both fertility and convenience for the carriage of its commodities to London, of which it sends a great many, particularly malt, meal, and timber. There are four other rivers in the county, the Kennet, great part of which is navigable, the Lodden, the Ocke, and the Lambourne, a small stream, which, contrary to all other rivers, is always highest in summer, shrinks gradually as winter approaches, and at last is nearly, if not quite dry.

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### M A R K E T T O W N S.

READING is supposed to derive its name from *redin*, the British word for *fern*, which is said to have grown here in  
great



great abundance. It is thirty-nine miles from London, is the county-town, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, and twelve burgesſes. It contains three pariſh churches, and the ſtreets of this town are well built, and it is more ſpacious and populous than many cities. It is partly encompassed by the Thames, which juſt by it receives the river Kennet, that paſſes under ſeven bridges in the town and neighbourhood, and abounds with pike, eel, dace, and fine trout. It had anciently a caſtle, of which the Danes are ſaid to have been in poſſeſſion when they drew a ditch between the Kennet and the Thames; and they retreated hither after they had been routed, at a little diſtance from hence, by the Saxon King Ethelwolf; but in 872 they quitted it to the Saxons, who plundered and deſtroyed the town, which they repeated in 1006; but it recovered itſelf, and is ſaid to have been a borough in the reign of William the Conqueror. Its caſtle afterwards having been a refuge for King Stephen's party, was deſtroyed by King Henry the Second.

A magnificent abbey of flint-ſtone was founded here by King Henry the Firſt, which is ſaid to have equalled moſt of the abbies in England for its ſtructure and wealth; and its abbots ſat in the Houſe of Lords. It was ſuppreſſed ſoon after the reformation; but the gate-houſe is ſtill pretty entire, and there are ſome remains of its walls eight feet thick.

Reading has a conſiderable trade into the country, but its chief traffic is with London, whether it ſends malt, meal, and timber, and receives back coals, ſalt, tobacco, grocery wares, and other commodities. The largeſt barges come up to the town-bridge, where there are commodious wharfs for clearing and loading them. The Kennet, which runs through the town, will bear a barge of more than an hundred tons, and is navigable almoſt to Newbury.

This town ſends two members to parliament; and there are four annual fairs held here, viz. on the 1ſt of February, the 25th of July, the 21ſt of September, and the 6th of November.

As ſome peaſants were digging ſome years ago, on a riſing ground, not far from Reading, they diſcovered a ſtratum of oyſter-ſhells, lying on a bed of green ſand, and covered with a ſtratum of bluifh clay. Many of the ſhells when they are taken up, have both the valves lying together, and when the upper and under ſhell or valve are found ſeparate, it appears, upon comparing and joining them, that they originally belonged

longed to each other. This stratum has been found to extend through five or six acres of ground.

NEWBURY is fifty-six miles from London, and is pleasantly situated on the river Kennet, which runs through the town; the streets are spacious, and the market-place, in which there is a guildhall, is large. This town is supposed to have risen out of the ruins of the antient *Spinæ*, a town mentioned by Antoninus in his Itinerary; for there is a little village within less than a mile, that is still called *Spene*, which the inhabitants of Newbury own to be the mother place; and part of Newbury itself is called *Spenham Land*.

This town has been very famous for the manufacture of broad cloth, but that trade is now much on the decline here. So much broad cloth was made here formerly, that in the reign of King Henry the Eighth here flourished John Wincomb, commonly called Jack of Newbury, one of the greatest clothiers that ever was in England. He kept an hundred looms in his house; and in the expedition to Flodden-field against the Scots, he marched thither in defence of his country at the head of an hundred of his own men, all clothed and armed at his own expence. He behaved in that engagement with distinguished bravery; and afterwards returned to his native place, and at his own expence re-built the greatest part of the parish-church of this town. The house in which he lived remained till about a century ago, when it was divided into tenements, and let out to different tenants.

The town-hall at Newbury is an ancient edifice, built of brick, and supported by pillars; and in this hall the inhabitants have fixed up a fine historical picture of the surrender of Calais, which was painted by Mr. Pine in the year 1762, and for which he received the first premium of one hundred pounds given by the Society of Arts.

There is an alms-house here, said to have been originally founded by King John, for six poor men and six poor women: Each person is allowed one shilling and nine-pence a week, four shillings each on the fair day, thirteen shillings and four-pence at Christmas, an hundred faggots of wood yearly, and a new coat or gown every two years.

WINDSOR is a most agreeable town, situated twenty-two miles from London, and is supposed to derive its name from its *winding shore*, on the south side of the Thames.

It



It is situated on a rising ground : the principal street looks southward over a long and spacious valley, chequered with corn fields and meadows, interspersed with groves, and watered by the Thames, which glides through the prospect in a transfluent and gentle stream ; and, fetching many windings, seems to linger in its way. On the other side, the country swells into hills, which are neither craggy nor over high, but rise with a gradual ascent that is covered with perpetual verdure where it is not adorned with trees.

This town was constituted a borough by King Edward the First, with great privileges, such as exemption from all tolls of bridges, markets, and fairs. It sent members to parliament from the thirtieth year of that prince's reign to the fourteenth of Edward the Third, when it intermitted till the twenty-fifth of Henry the Sixth, but has sent two members ever since. It has charters both from King James the First and Second. It is governed by a mayor, high-steward, under-steward, a town-clerk, two bailiffs, and twenty-eight other persons, chosen out of the most substantial inhabitants, thirteen of whom are called fellows or benchers of the guildhall ; and of these thirteen, ten are called aldermen, from among whom the mayor and bailiffs are annually chosen. The members of parliament are elected by the inhabitants paying scot and lot, and who are computed to be in number about three hundred, the mayor is the returning officer.

The church here is a spacious ancient building, situated in the high street of the town, in which is also the town house, a neat regular edifice, built in 1686, and supported with columns and arches of Portland stone ; at the north end is placed in a niche the statue of Queen Anne in her royal robes, with the globe and other regalia ; and underneath, in the freeze of the intablature of the lesser columns and arches, is the following inscription in gold letters :

Anno Regni VI°.

Dom. 1707.

*Arte tua, sculptor, non est imitabilis ANNA ;*

*ANNÆ vis similem sculpere ? sculpe Deam.*

S. Chapman, Prætor.

And in another niche on the south side is the statue of Prince George of Denmark, her majesty's royal consort, in a Roman military habit, and underneath is the following inscription :

*Serenissimo*



*Serenissimo Principi*  
 GEORGIO *Principi* Danie,  
 Heroi omni sæculo venerando,  
 Christophorus Wren, *Arm.*  
 Posuit. MDCCXIII.

In the area, underneath the town-hall, the market is kept every Saturday, and is plentifully supplied with corn, meat, fish, and all other provisions.

MAIDENHEAD is a market-town at the distance of twenty-eight miles from London. It stands in two parishes, Cookham and Bray, and was first raised out of obscurity by a bridge, which about three centuries ago was built over the Thames at this place, and brought hither the great north-west road, which used to cross the Thames at a place called Babham End, about two miles to the north, where there was a ferry. After this bridge was built, Maidenhead began to be accommodated with inns, and the town is now pretty large, and tolerably well built. The bridge is maintained by the corporation, for which they are allowed the tolls both over and under it; and the crown gives three trees a year out of Windsor forest towards repairing it. The barge pier divides Berkshire from Buckinghamshire. There is a great trade here in malt, meal, and timber, which are carried in barges to London. Here is a gaol both for debtors and felons, a chapel dedicated to St. Andrew the apostle and St. Mary Magdalen, but no church, and an alms-house, consisting of dwellings for eight poor men and their wives; each man has six pounds a year, and every second year each person has a new gown. It was endowed by James Smith, citizen and salter of London, and his wife, about 1589, and the Salters Company of London are trustees.

ABINGDON is situated on a branch of the Thames, at the distance of fifty-six miles from London. It is a large, populous, and flourishing town; the streets are well paved, and centre in a spacious area, where the market is held. In the centre of this area is the market-house, which is a curious building of ashlar work, supported on lofty pillars, with a large hall of free-stone above, in which the assizes are frequently held, and other public business transacted. There was formerly a very magnificent abbey here, which was de-

stroyed at the general dissolution of the monasteries. Here are two parish churches, both of which are said to have been built by one of the abbots of Abingdon. There is also here a well endowed free-school, and two alms-houses for poor people of both sexes. The trade carried on by the inhabitants of this town chiefly consists in dealing in corn and preparing malt, which is conveyed down the river in barges to London.

WALLINGFORD is forty-six miles from London, and is a large town, and makes a good appearance. It is situated on the river Thames, over which it has a stone bridge that is three hundred and nine yards long, having nineteen arches and four draw bridges. It has a market-house, over which is the town-hall. The chief support of this town is the malt trade. There was formerly a famous castle here, some remains of which are yet to be seen.

Within a mile of this town is a farm called *Chosely*, the lands belonging to which lie all together, and are let at one thousand pounds per annum; and there is one barn on the estate, the roof of which is three hundred and six feet long. This used to be considered as the largest farm in England; but it is probably not so now, since the pernicious practice of engrossing and enlarging farms has become so prevalent. Some artful reasoners have, indeed, endeavoured to prove that large farms are most advantageous to the community; but the arguments brought in support of this opinion appear to be extremely sophistical; and it is certain, that an equitable and benevolent government would chuse to encourage that mode of cultivating the earth that was most favourable to population, and by which the greatest number of industrious families might be comfortably supported, which cannot be the case when the monopolization of farms becomes general, and which therefore may justly be considered, for this and various other reasons, as a most pernicious practice.

HUNGERFORD is a small market-town, about eight miles from Newbury, and sixty-four from London. It is governed by a constable, who is chosen yearly, and is lord of the manor, which he holds immediately of the King, for the time being. The church is an handsome Gothic structure. They have a horn here that holds about a quart, and which appears by an inscription on it to have been given to this town by the famous John of Gaunt, son of King Edward the Third, together







ther with a grant of the royal fishery, in a part of the river which abounds with good trout and craw-fish.

LAMBOURNE is a small town, sixty-eight miles from London, which derives its name from the little river Lambourne which rises near it. It is not a place of much note, but the adjacent country is pleasant. There is an hospital here for ten poor men, which was founded in 1502. This town is most remarkable for its rivulet, which is always highest in summer, but so low in winter as to be almost lost.

FARRINGTON is a neat clean town, sixty-eight miles from London, and pleasantly situated on a hill near the river Thames. The church is a venerable Gothic structure, and has painted glass in the windows, besides many ancient monuments.— Henry Pye, Esq; has an handsome seat here.

WANTAGE is an agreeable market-town, sixty miles from London, and eight from Farringdon, and is pleasantly situated in a fine sporting country. This place was formerly a royal villa, and is said to have been the birth place of King Alfred.— The country adjoining to Wantage is extremely pleasant.

EAST-ILSLEY is a small market-town, fifty-four miles from London, agreeably situated in a sporting country. The houses in the town are neat, and the adjoining lands well cultivated. The market, which is held on Wednesday, is said to be the greatest for sheep of any in England.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

*Windsor Castle* is the most delightful royal palace in England. It was first built by William the Conqueror soon after his being established on the throne of this kingdom, on account of its pleasant and healthful situation, and as a place of security; was greatly improved by King Henry the First, who added many additional buildings, and surrounded the whole with a strong wall. Our succeeding Monarchs resided in the same castle, till King Edward the Third caused the ancient castle to be taken down, erected the present stately castle and St. George's chapel, inclosed the whole with a strong



wall or rampart of stone, and instituted the order of the garter.

It may be proper to observe, that William of Wykeham, afterwards Bishop of Winchester, was principally employed by King Edward the Third in building this castle, and when he had finished it, he caused this doubtful sentence to be cut on one of the towers :

“ THIS MADE WYKEHAM.”

Which being reported to the King as if that prelate had assumed to himself the honour of building this castle, that bishop would probably have fallen under his Majesty's displeasure, had he not readily assured his royal master, that he meant it only as an acknowledgement that this building had *made him great* in the favour of his Prince, and had occasioned his being raised to his present high station.

Great additions were in succeeding times made to the castle by several of our monarchs, particularly by Edward the Fourth, Henry the Seventh, Henry the Eighth, Elizabeth, and Charles the Second. This last Prince, soon after his restoration, entirely repaired the castle, and though it had suffered greatly by plunder and rapine in the preceding times of national disorder, he restored it to its ancient splendour. As that Prince usually kept his court there during the summer season, he spared no expence in rendering it worthy the royal residence. He entirely changed the face of the upper court, he enlarged the windows, and made them regular, richly furnished the royal apartments, and had them decorated with large and beautiful paintings, and erected a large magazine of arms. In short, King Charles the Second left little to be done to the castle, except some additional paintings in the apartments, which were added by his successors James the Second, and William the Third, in whose reign the whole was completed.

This stately and venerable castle is divided into two courts or wards, with a large round tower between them called the middle ward, it being formerly separated from the lower ward by a strong wall and draw-bridge. The whole contains above twelve acres of land, and has many towers and batteries for its defence ; but length of time has abated their strength.

The castle is situated upon a high hill, which rises by a gentle ascent, and enjoys a most delightful prospect around it : in the front is a wide and extensive vale, adorned with corn fields



fields and meadows, with groves on either side, and the calm smooth water of the Thames running through it, and behind it are every where hills covered with woods, as if designed by nature for game and hunting.

On the declivity of the hill is a fine terrace, faced with a rampart of free-stone one thousand eight hundred and seventy feet in length. This may justly be said to be one of the noblest walks in Europe, both with respect to the strength and grandeur of the building, and the fine and extensive prospect over the Thames of the adjacent country on every side, where from the variety of fine villas scattered about, nature and art seem to vie with each other in beauty.

When Queen Elizabeth resided at Windsor, she used to walk on this terrace near an hour every day before dinner, if not prevented by windy weather, to which she had a particular aversion. Wet weather was no interruption to her amusement there; for she took great delight in walking abroad when the rain was only mild and calm, with an umbrella over her head.—This noble walk is covered with fine gravel, and has cavities, with proper drains, in order to carry off the rain, so that let it fall ever so heavy, none of it will lie upon the terrace; by which means it is dry, hard, and fit for walking on, as soon as ever the storm is over.

From this terrace you enter into a beautiful park of the finest green or lawn, which lies round this royal castle, and is no small ornament to Windsor; it is called the Little or House-Park, to distinguish it from another adjoining of much larger extent; but this is computed to be four miles in circumference, and contains near five hundred acres of land; it was enlarged and inclosed by a brick-wall in the reign of King William the Third, and is most delightful for its natural beauty, and the many shady walks, especially that called Queen Elizabeth's walk; which, on the summer evenings, is chiefly frequented by the best company.

The fine plain on the top of the hill, was made level for bowling in King Charles the Second's time, an exercise in which that Prince much delighted; and from hence is the like extended prospect over the same most beautiful and well cultivated country and the river Thames.

The lower part of this park, under the terrace of the north side of the castle, was designed and laid out for a garden in the reign of Queen Anne; but on the demise of that Princess,

cess, and in a country where the beauties of nature are more attended to than the decorations of art, this design was laid aside.

In this park is constantly a good stock of deer and other game, and the keeper's lodge, at the farther end next the road side, is a delightful habitation.

In the upper court of the castle is a spacious and regular square, containing on the north side the royal apartments, and St. George's chapel and hall; on the south and east sides are the royal apartments, those of the Prince of Wales, and the great officers of state; and in the centre of the area is an equestrian statue in copper of King Charles the Second, in the habit of one of the Cæsars, standing on a marble pedestal, adorned with various kinds of fruit, fish, shipping, and other ornaments.

The round tower, which forms the west side of this upper court, contains the governor's apartments. It is built on the highest part of the mount, and there is an ascent to it by a large flight of stone steps. These apartments are spacious and noble, and among the rest is a guard room, or magazine of arms. King Charles the Second began to face this mount with brick, but only compleated that part next the court. The governor's lodgings command a most extensive view to London, and, as they say, into twelve counties. They also tell you, that in the guard-chamber, are the coats of mail of John King of France, and David King of Scotland, both prisoners here at the same time. The royal standard is raised on this tower on state-holidays, or when the King or Royal Family reside here.

On the opposite corner of the royal buildings is King John's tower, so named from its being the apartment assigned to that French monarch when he was prisoner in England.

The royal apartments are on the north side of this princely castle, and commonly go under the name of the Star Building, from the garter and star largely displayed in gold, and fixed in the middle of the building on the outside next the terrace. The usual entrance into the apartments is from the upper court or ward, through an handsome vestibule, supported by pillars of the Ionic order, with some antique brass bustos in the several niches of no great account; and also figures of a Roman vestal, and a slave in the action of picking a thorn out of his foot. The great staircase is finely painted with several  
fabulous



fabulous stories from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, particularly the story of Phaeton, who is represented on the dome petitioning Apollo for leave to drive the chariot of the sun; and on the stair-case, in large compartments, are the transformation of Phaeton's sisters into poplars, their tears distilling amber from the trees with this inscription, "*Magnis tamen excidit ausis,*" "Great events happen to the bold." Also the story of Cygnus, King of Liguria, who, being inconsolable for Phaeton's death, was transformed into a swan. Over these, and on the several parts of the ceiling, supported by the winds, are represented the signs of the zodiac, with baskets of flowers, beautifully disposed, and at each corner are the elements of earth, air, fire, and water, expressed by cornucopias, birds, zephyrs, flaming censers, water nymphs with fishes, and a variety of other representations expressing each element; also Aurora, with her nymphs in waiting, giving water to her horses. In proper attitudes, in several parts of this stair-case, are also represented comedy, tragedy, music, painting, and other sciences, and the whole stair-case is beautifully disposed and heightened with gold, and has a view to the back stairs, whereon is painted the story of Meleager and Atalanta. The painting of this stair-case was by Sir James Thornhill.

We now proceed to a particular description of the principal apartments.

The Queen's guard-chamber is the first apartment into which you enter. It is completely furnished with fire arms, as guns, bayonets, pikes, bandoleers, &c. beautifully ranged and disposed into various forms, with the star and garter, the royal cypher, and other ornaments intermixed, cut in lime-wood. Over the chimney is a full portrait of Prince George of Denmark in armour on horseback, by Dahl, with a view of shipping, by Vandewell. On the ceiling is Britannia, in the person of Queen Catharine of Portugal, consort to King Charles the Second, seated on a globe, bearing the arms of England and Portugal, with the four quarters of the world, viz. Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, and their respective symbols, attended by deities presenting their several offerings. The signs of the zodiac are on the outer part of this beautiful representation. In different parts of the ceiling are Mars, Venus, Juno, Minerva, and other heathen deities, with zephyrs, Cupids, and other embellishments, properly disposed.

On



On the cieling of the Queen's presence chamber, Queen Catharine is represented attended by religion, prudence, fortitude, and other virtues. She is under a curtain, spread by time and supported by zephyrs, while fame sounds the happiness of Britain. Below, justice is driving away envy, sedition, and other evil genii. The room is hung with tapestry, containing the history of the beheading of St. Paul, and the persecution of the primitive Christians, and adorned with the pictures of Judith and Holofernes, by Guido Reni; a Magdalen, by Sir Peter Lely; and a Prometheus, by young Palma.

On the cieling of the Queen's audience-room is Britannia represented in the person of Queen Catharine, in a car drawn by swans to the temple of virtue, attended by Flora, Ceres, Pomona, &c. with other decorations heightened with gold. The canopy is of fine English velvet, set up by Queen Anne; and the tapestry was made at Coblenz, in Germany, and presented to King Henry the Eighth. The pictures hung up in this room, are, a Magdalen by moonlight, by Caracci; St. Stephen stoned, by Rotterman; and Judith and Holofernes, by Guido Reni.

On the cieling of the ball-room King Charles the Second is represented giving freedom to Europe by the figures of Perseus and Andromeda; on the shield of Perseus is inscribed "*Perseus Britannicus*," and over the head of Andromeda is wrote "*Europa Liberata*," and Mars attended by the celestial deities, offers the olive branch. On the coving of this chamber is the story of Perseus and Andromeda, the four seasons, and the signs of the zodiac; the whole heightened with gold. The tapestry, which was made at Brussels, and set up by King Charles the Second, represents the seasons of the year; and the room is adorned with the following pictures, viz. the roman charity, after Tintoret; Duns Scotus, by Spagnoletto; a Madona by Titian; Fame by Palmegiani; the arts and sciences, also by Palmegiani; and Pan and Syrinx, by Stanick.

On the cieling of the Queen's drawing-room is painted the assembly of the gods and goddesses, the whole intermixed with Cupids, flowers, &c. and heightened with gold. The room is hung with tapestry, representing the twelve months of the year; and adorned with the pictures of Lot and his daughters, after Angelo; Lady Digby, wife of Sir Kenelm Digby, by Vandyke; a sleeping Venus, by Poussin; a family in the character

character of Mark Anthony and Cleopatra, by De Bray; a Spanish family, after Titian; and a flower piece, by Varelst.

The bed of state in the Queen's bed-chamber is of rich flowered velvet made in Spitalfields, by order of Queen Anne, and the tapestry, which represents the harvest season, was also made at London, by Poyntz. The cieling is painted with the story of Diana and Endymion, and the room is adorned with the pictures of the holy family, by Raphael; Herod's cruelty, by Juliano Romano; and Judith and Holofernes, by Guido.

The room of beauties is so named from the portraits of the most celebrated beauties in the reign of King Charles the Second. They are fourteen in number, viz. Lady Offory, the Dutchess of Somerset, the Dutchess of Cleveland, Lady Gramont, the Countess of Northumberland, the Dutchess of Richmond, Lady Byron, Mrs. Middleton, Lady Denham and her sister, Lady Rochester, Lady Sunderland, Mrs. Dawson, and Mrs. Knott. These are all original paintings, drawn to great perfection, by Sir Peter Lely.

In the Queen's dressing-room are the following portraits, viz. Queen Henrietta Maria, wife to King Charles the First, Queen Mary, when a child, and Queen Catherine; these three are all done by Vandyke: the Dutchess of York, mother to Queen Mary and Queen Anne, by Sir Peter Lely.— In this room is a closet, wherein are several paintings, and in particular a portrait of the Countess of Desmond, who is said to have lived to within a few days of one hundred and fifty years of age; also a portrait of Erasmus, and other learned men. In this closet is likewise the banner of France, annually delivered on the second of August by the Duke of Marlborough, by which he holds Blenheim-house, built at Woodstock in Oxfordshire, in the reign of Queen Anne, as a national reward to that great general for his many glorious victories over the French.

Queen Elizabeth's, or the picture gallery, is richly adorned with the following paintings, viz. King James the First and his Queen, whole lengths, by Vansomer; Rome in flames, by Julio Romano; a Roman family, by Titian; the holy family, after Raphael; Judith and Holofernes, by Tintoret; a night piece, by Skalkin; the pool of Bethesda, by Tintoret; a portrait of Charles the Sixth, Emperor of Germany, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; the wise men making their offerings to Christ, by Paulo Veronese; two usurers, an admired piece, by the famous blacksmith of Antwerp; Perseus and Andro-



meda, by Schiavone; Aretine and Titian, by Titian; the Duke of Gloucester, a whole length, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; Prince George of Denmark, a whole length, by Dahl; King Henry the Eighth, by Hans Holbein; Vandenelli, an Italian statuary, by Correggio; the founders of different orders in the Romish church, by Titian, and Rembrandt; a rural piece in low life, by Bassano; a fowl piece, by Varelst; the battle of Spurs near Terevaen, in France, in 1513, by Hans Holbein; two views of Windsor castle, by Wofferman, and two Italian markets, by Michael Angelo. In this room is also a curious amber cabinet, presented by the King of Prussia to Queen Caroline.

There is here likewise Queen Caroline's china closet, filled with a great variety of curious china elegantly disposed, and the whole room is finely gilt and ornamented; over the chimney are the pictures of Prince Arthur and his two sisters, the children of King Henry the Seventh, by Holbein; and in this closet is also a fine amber cabinet, presented to Queen Anne, by Dr. Robinson, Bishop of London, and plenipotentiary at the congress of Utrecht.

The cieling of the King's closet is adorned with the story of Jupiter and Leda. Among the curiosities in this room is a large frame of needle work, said to be wrought by Mary Queen of Scots, while a prisoner in Forthinghay castle; among other figures, she herself is represented supplicating for justice before the Virgin Mary, with her son, afterwards King James the First, standing by her; in a scroll is worked these words "*Sapientiam amavi et exquisivi a juventute mea.*" This piece of work after its having lain a long time in the wardrobe, was set up by order of Queen Anne. The pictures are, a Magdalen, by Carracci; a sleeping Cupid, by Correggio; contemplation, by Carracci; Titian's daughter, by herself; and a German lady, by Raphael.

The cieling of the King's dressing room is painted with the story of Jupiter and Danae; and adorned with the pictures of the birth of Jupiter, by Julio Romano; and of a naked Venus asleep, by Sir Peter Lely.

The King's bed chamber is hung with tapestry, representing the story of Hero and Leander; the bed of state, which was set up in the reign of King Charles the Second, is of fine blue cloth, richly embroidered with gold and silver; and on the cieling that Prince is represented in the robes of the garter, under a canopy supported by time, Jupiter, and Neptune, with



with a wreath of laurel over his head ; and he is attended by Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, paying their obeisance to him. The paintings are, King Charles the Second, when a boy, in armour, by Vandyke ; and St. Paul stoned at Lystra, by Paulo Veronese.

On the cieling of the King's drawing room, is King Charles the Second, riding in a triumphal car, drawn by the horses of the sun, attended by fame, peace, and the polite arts ; Hercules is driving away rebellion, sedition, and ignorance ; Britannia and Neptune, properly attended, are paying obeisance to the monarch as he passes ; and the whole is a representation of the restoration of that monarch, and the introduction of arts and sciences into these kingdoms. In the other parts of the cieling are painted the labours of Hercules, with festoons of fruit and flowers, the whole beautifully decorated in gold and stone colour. The pictures hung up in this room are, a converted Chinese, by Sir Godfrey Kneller ; the Marquis of Hamilton, after Vandyke, by Hanneman ; Herodias's daughter, by Carlo Dolci ; a Magdalen, by Carlo Dolci ; and a Venetian lady, by Titian.

On the cieling of the King's public dining room, is painted the banquet of the gods, with a variety of fish and fowl. The pictures hung up here are, the portraits of his present Majesty, and the late Queen Caroline, whole lengths ; Hercules and Omphale, Cephalus and Procris, the birth of Venus, and Venus and Adonis, the four last by Genario ; a naval triumph of King Charles the Second, by Verrio ; the marriage of St Catherine, by Dawkers ; nymphs and satyrs, by Rubens and Snyders ; hunting the wild boar, by Snyders ; a picture of still life, by Girardo ; the taking of the bears, by Snyders ; a night piece, being a family singing by candle light, by Quistin ; a Bohemian family, by De Brie ; divine love, by an unknown hand ; and Lacy, a famous comedian in King Charles the Second's time, in three characters, by Wright.

Many of the paintings in this room are best seen at noon by the reflection of the sun ; the carving of this chamber is very beautiful, representing a great variety of fowl, fish, and fruit, done to the utmost perfection on lime wood, by Mr. Gibbons, a famous statuary and carver in the reign of King Charles the Second.

On the cieling of the King's audience chamber, is represented the re-establishment of the Church of England in these nations

on the restoration of that *pious Prince*, Charles the Second, in the characters of England, Scotland, and Ireland, attended by faith, hope, charity, and the cardinal virtues; religion triumphs over superstition and hypocrisy, which are driven by Cupids from before the face of the church; all which appear in proper attitudes, and the whole highly finished. The paintings in this room are, our Saviour before Pilate, by Michael Angelo; the apostles at our Saviour's tomb, by Schiavoni; Peter, James, and John, by Michael Angelo; and the Dutchess of Richmond, by Vandyke. The canopy of this room is of green velvet, embroidered with gold, very rich, set up in the reign of King Charles the Second.

On the cieling of the King's presence chamber, is Mercury, with an exceeding good original portrait of King Charles the Second, which he shews to the four quarters of the world, introduced by Neptune; fame declaring the glory of that Prince, and time driving away rebellion, sedition, and their companions. Over the canopy is justice in stone-colour, shewing the arms of Britain to Thames and his river nymphs, with the star of Venus, and this label, *Syds Carolinum*; at the lower end of the chamber is Venus in a sea car, drawn by tritons and sea nymphs. This cieling is in all parts beautifully painted, and highly ornamented with gold and stone-colour. The paintings in this room are, Henry Duke of Gloucester, brother to King Charles the Second, by Vandyke; the Countess of Dorset, his governess, by ditto; Father Paul the Venetian, by Tintoret; the tapestry of this chamber is the history of Queen Athaliah.

The King's guard chamber is a spacious and noble room in which is a large magazine of arms, viz. pikes, pistols, guns, coats of mail, swords, halberts, bayonets, drums, &c. to the amount of some thousands, all beautifully disposed in colonades, pillars, circles, shields. and other devices in a most curious manner, ranged by Mr. Harris, late master-gunner of the castle, the same person who made that beautiful arrangement of the small arms in the great armoury in the Tower of London, and at Hampton Court, and whom we shall have occasion to speak of hereafter.

The cieling is painted in water colours: in one circle is peace and plenty, and in the other Mars and Minerva. In the dome, is a representation of Mars, and the whole room is decorated



decorated with instruments of war adapted to the chamber. Over the chimney is a portrait, as large as life, of Charles the Eleventh, King of Sweden, on horseback, by Wyck. And over the door they shew the armour of Edward the Black Prince.

In this room the knights of the garter dine in great state at an installation, in the absence of the Sovereign.

St. George's hall is particularly set apart to the honour of the order of the garter, and is one of the noblest rooms in Europe, both with regard to the building and the painting, which is here performed in the most grand taste. In a large oval in the centre of the ceiling King Charles the Second is represented in the habit of the order, attended by England, Scotland, and Ireland; religion and plenty hold the crown of these kingdoms over his head: Mars and Mercury, with the emblems of war and peace, stand on each side. In the same oval, regal government is represented upheld by religion and eternity, with justice attended by fortitude, temperance, and prudence, beating down rebellion and faction. Towards the throne is represented in an octagon, St. George's cross incircled with the garter, within a star or glory supported by Cupids, with the motto,

“HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE.”

and besides other embellishments relating to the order, the muses are represented attending in full concert.

On the back of the state, or sovereign's throne, is a large drapery, on which is painted St. George encountering the dragon, as large as the life, and on the lower border of the drapery is inscribed,

“VENIENDO RESTITUIT REM,”

in allusion to King William the Third, who is painted in the habit of the order, sitting under a royal canopy, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. To the throne is an ascent by five steps of fine marble, to which the painter has added five more, which are done with such perfection as to deceive the sight, and induce the spectator to think them equally real.

This noble room is an hundred and eight feet in length, and the whole north side is taken up with the triumph of Edward the Black Prince, after the manner of the Romans. At the upper part of the hall is Edward the Third, that Prince's father, conqueror of France and Scotland, and the founder of the  
the



the order of the garter, seated on a throne, receiving the Kings of France and Scotland prisoners; the Black Prince is seated in the middle of the procession, crowned with laurel, and carried by slaves; preceded by captives, and attended by the emblems of victory, liberty, and other ensignia of the Romans, with the banners of France and Scotland displayed. The painter has given a loose to his fancy by closing the procession with the fiction of the Countess of Salisbury, in the person of a fine lady, making garlands for the Prince, and the representation of the Merry Wives of Windsor.

At the lower end of the hall is a noble music gallery, supported by slaves, larger than the life, in proper attitudes, said to represent a father and his three sons, taken prisoners by the Black Prince in his wars abroad. Over this gallery on the lower compartment of the ceiling is the collar of the order of the garter fully displayed. The painting of this room was done by Verrio, and is highly finished and heightened with gold.

The King's chapel is decorated in a very gay and splendid manner. On the ceiling is finely represented our Lord's ascension; and the altar piece is adorned with a noble painting of the last supper. The north side of the chapel is ornamented with the representation of our Saviour's raising Lazarus from the dead, his curing the sick of the palsy, and other miracles, beautifully painted by Verrio; and in a group of spectators the painter has introduced his own effigy, with those of Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Mr. Cooper, who assisted him in these paintings. The east end of this chapel is taken up with the closets belonging to his Majesty and the Royal family. The canopy, curtains, and furniture are of crimson velvet, fringed with gold; and the carved work of this chapel, which is well worthy the attention of the curious, is done by that famous artist Gibbons, in lime tree, representing a great variety of pelicans, doves, palms, and other allusions to scripture history, with the star and garter, and other ornaments, finished to great perfection.

St. George's chapel which is situated in the middle of the lower court, is in the purest stile of Gothic architecture, and was first erected by King Edward the Third, in the year 1337, soon after the foundation of the college, for the honour of the order of the garter, and dedicated to St. George, the patron of

of England; but however noble the first design might be, King Edward the Fourth, not finding it entirely compleated, enlarged the structure and designed the present building, together with the houses of the dean and canons, situated on the north and west sides of the chapel; the work was afterwards carried on by Henry the Seventh, who finished the body of the chapel, and Sir Reginald Bray, knight of the garter, and the favourite of that King, assisted in ornamenting the chapel and compleating the roof,

The architecture of the inside has always been esteemed for its neatness and great beauty, and in particular the stone roof is reckoned an excellent piece of workmanship. It is an ellipsis supported by Gothic pillars, whose ribs and groins sustain the whole cieling, every part of which has some different device well finished, as the arms of Edward the Confessor, Edward the Third, Henry the Sixth, Edward the Fourth, Henry the Seventh, and Henry the Eighth, also the arms of England and France quarterly, the cross of St. George, the rose, portcullis, lion rampant, unicorn, &c. In a chapel in the south isle is represented in ancient painting, the history of John the Baptist, and in the same isle are painted on large pannels of oak, neatly carved and decorated with the several devices peculiar to each Prince, the portraits at full length of Prince Edward, son to Henry the Sixth, Edward the Fourth, Edward the Fifth, and Henry the Seventh. In the north isle is a chapel dedicated to St. Stephen, wherein the history of that saint is painted on the pannels, and well preserved. In the first of these pannels St. Stephen is represented preaching to the people; in the second he is before Herod's tribunal; in the third he is stoning; and in the fourth he is represented dead. At the east end of this isle is the chapter house of the college, in which is a portrait at full length, by a masterly hand, of the victorious Edward the Third, in his robes of state, holding in his right hand a sword, and bearing the crowns of France and Scotland, in token of the many victories he gained over those nations. On one side of this painting is kept the sword of that great and warlike Prince.

But what appears most worthy of notice is the choir. On each side are the stalls of the sovereign and knights companions of the most noble order of the garter, with the helmet, mantling, crest, and sword of each knight, set up over his stall,  
on



on a canopy of ancient carving, curiously wrought, and over the canopy is affixed the banner or arms of each knight, properly blazoned on silk, and on the back of the stalls are the titles of the knights, with their arms neatly engraved and blazoned on copper. The sovereign's stall is on the right hand of the entrance into the choir, and is covered with purple velvet and cloth of gold, and has a canopy and compleat furniture of the same valuable materials; his banner is likewise of velvet, and his mantling of cloth of gold. The Prince's stall is on the left, and has no distinction from those of the rest of the knights companions, the whole society, according to the statutes of the institution, being companions and colleagues, equal in honour and power.

The altar piece was, soon after the restoration, adorned with cloth of gold and purple damask, by King Charles the Second; but on removing the wainscot of one of the chapels in the year 1707, a fine painting of the Lord's supper was found, which being approved of by Sir James Thornhill, Verrio, and other eminent masters, was repaired and placed on the altar piece.

Near the altar is the Queen's gallery, for the accommodation of the ladies at an installation.

In a vault under the marble pavement of this choir, are interred the bodies of Henry the Eighth, and Jane Seymour his Queen, King Charles the First, and a daughter of Queen Anne.

In the south isle, near the door of the choir, is buried King Henry the Sixth, and the arch near which he was interred, was sumptuously decorated by King Henry the Eighth, with the royal ensigns and other devices, but they are now much defaced by time.—In this chapel is also the monument of Edward Earl of Lincoln, Lord High Admiral of England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, erected by his lady, who is also interred with him. The monument is of alabaster, with pillars of porphyry.—Another monument, within a neat screen of brass work, is erected to the memory of Charles Somerset, Earl of Worcester, and knight of the garter, who died in 1526, and his lady, daughter to William Earl of Huntingdon.—Also a stately monument of white marble erected to the memory of Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort, and knight of the garter, who died in 1699. There are here also the tombs of Sir George Manners, Lord Roos, that of the Lord









Lord Hastings, Chamberlain to Edward the Fourth, and several others.

The tomb-house, which is adjoining to the east end of St. George's chapel, was erected by King Henry the Seventh, for a burial place for himself and those who should succeed him on the throne of England: but this Prince afterwards altering his purpose, began the more noble edifice at Westminster; and this fabric remained neglected till Cardinal Wolsey obtained a grant of it from Henry the Eighth, and then designed and began here a most sumptuous monument for himself, from whence this building obtained the name of "Wolsey's Tomb-house;" and some have erroneously supposed, that at first the whole building was erected by that famous Cardinal. Lord Bacon observes, that this monument "far exceeded that of King Henry the Seventh, in Westminster-Abbey;" and at the time of the Cardinal's disgrace, and his loss of the King's favour, the design had been so far executed, that four thousand two hundred and fifty ducats had been paid to the statuary for executing that part of the work which was then done. But the Cardinal dying soon after his retirement from court, was privately buried in the chapel of Leicester Abbey, and this monument remained unfinished; and at last, in 1646, became the plunder of the Parliamentary soldiers. King James the Second afterwards converted this building into a Popish chapel, and mass was publicly performed here; since which it has been entirely neglected, and suffered to run to ruin.

*Windsor Great Park*, which lies on the south side of the town, opens by a most noble road, or long walk, in a direct line, to the top of a delightful hill at the distance of near three miles. This road, through a double plantation of trees on each side, leads to the Ranger or Keeper's Lodge, the residence of his Royal Highness the late Duke of Cumberland, who greatly improved the natural beauties of this park, and by large plantations of trees, extensive lawns, new roads, spacious canals, and rivers of water, made this villa a most delightful habitation. This park is fourteen miles in circumference, and is well stocked with deer, and variety of other game. The late Duke was succeeded both in the rangership of this park, as also in title by his royal nephew, the present Duke of Cumberland.



The late erected building, or Belvidere, on Shrub's Hill, over a beautiful verdure and young plantation of trees, is very elegant, and affords the most delightful rural scene; the noble piece of water in the valley underneath, was effected at a large expence, and from a small stream or current of water, was made a spacious river, capable to carry barges and boats of pleasure, with freedom; his Royal Highness also erected over this river, a bridge of a most curious architecture, on a noble and bold plan, being a single arch, one hundred and sixty-five feet wide; this piece of water was a great ornament to the park, and terminates in a grotto, and large cascade or fall of water; but has of late suffered damage by the breaking up of the head bank.

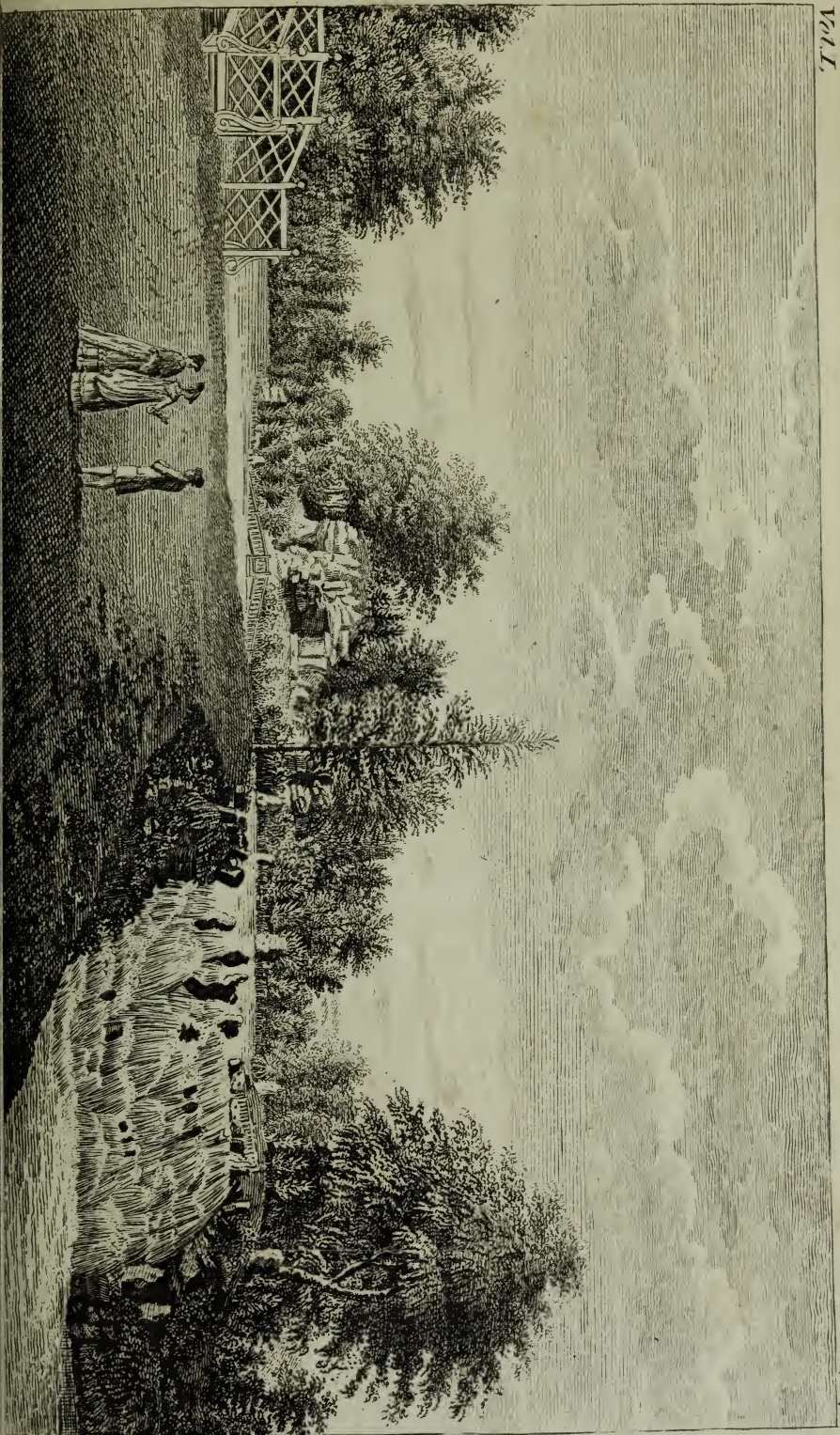
Neither was the attention of his Highness confined to the park only, but extended in like manner to the adjoining forest, that scene of rural diversion, and place of residence of the royal game. Among the improvements made here by that Prince, the new two miles course on Ascot Heath cannot be passed unnoticed: This race ground was laid out and brought into the most beautiful order at a large expence, and is one of the first courses in the kingdom. The forest is of great extent, and was appropriated to hunting, and the habitation of the King's deer, by William the First, who established many laws and regulations which are at this time observed for the preservation of the royal game, and better regulation of the forest. In this extensive tract of land are several agreeable towns and villages, of which Wokingham is the principal, and almost in the centre of the forest; and although the land is generally barren and uncultivated, it affords great delight and pleasure in riding, by beautiful hills and vales intermixed with fine lawns and herbage for cattle, also by the many agreeable habitations of gentlemen, whose

“ Pleasant Villas intervene,

“ To grace the sweetly varied scene.”

And, if we consider the noble exercise of the chace which this forest admits of, the large verdures and shady plantations of oak, beech, and other trees, that so frequently abound in this delightful spot, it must be confessed that this park and forest are peculiarly adapted by nature to rural pleasure and delight; and that no just idea can be formed of the many beauties









ties that here, on every side, offer to our sight, by the best description in prose ; our great English poet, Mr. Pope, alone can truly paint out these sylvan scenes and delightful habitations ; whose muse, (whilst himself resided in this forest) produced one of the finest poems in our language, on this subject, and which he thus elegantly introduces:

“ The groves of Eden, vanish’d now so long,  
 “ Live in description, and look green in song :  
 “ These, was my breast inspir’d with equal flame,  
 “ Like them in beauty, should be like in fame.  
 “ Here hills and vales, the woodland and the plain,  
 “ Here earth and water seem to meet again.  
 “ Not Chaos like, together crush’d and bruis’d,  
 “ But, as the world, harmoniously confus’d :  
 “ Where order in variety we see,  
 “ And where, tho’ all things differ, all agree.  
 “ Here waving groves a chequer’d scene display,  
 “ And part admit, and part exclude the day ;—  
 “ There, interspers’d in lawns and op’ning glades,  
 “ Thin trees arise, that shun each other’s shades.  
 “ Here in full light the russet plains extend ;  
 “ There wrapt in clouds the bluish hills ascend ;  
 “ Ev’n the wild heath displays her purple dyes,  
 “ And midst the desert, fruitful fields arise,  
 “ That crown’d with tufted trees and springing corn,  
 “ Like verdant isles the sable waste adorn.—  
 “ Not proud Olympus yields a nobler sight,  
 “ Tho’ Gods assembled grace his tow’ring height,  
 “ Than what more humble mountains offer here,  
 “ Where, in their blessings, all those Gods appear.”

*Cranbourne Lodge* in this neighbourhood, belonged also to his late Royal Highness, as ranger of the forest. This lodge is most pleasantly situated, and has an extensive prospect over a fine plain and country, forming a most beautiful landscape. In a spacious chamber of the house are painted and regularly ranged in large pannels, the military dresses of the different corps in the armies of Europe. The Duke of Gloucester is the present ranger of Cranbourne Chace, and great improvements have been made to this lodge by his Highness.

Opposite to the front of this lodge on the neighbouring plain, in the parish of Wingfield, is a handsome building erected and endowed by the late Earl of Ranelagh, sometime ranger



of this forest, for the education of twenty boys and girls: on this pleasing spot or part of the forest are the villas of the late Mr. Buckley, Lady Beauclerk, Mr. Mitford, and other gentlemen; and at a small distance *Fern-Hill* offers to the sight on a delightful eminence.

*St. Leonard's-Hill* is adjoining to the Duke's lodge, and requires due notice, on account of the pleasing seat of Lillye Aynscombe, Esq; and the large plantation of oak and beech, which here form the most agreeable variety or face of nature. On the summit of the hill the Countess of Waldegrave has lately erected a noble edifice, which commands a most extensive and delightful prospect over the river Thames, and a most beautiful fruitful country.

*Sunning-Hill* which is at a small distance, is a very delightful part of the forest, and many gentlemen of fortune have here pleasing villas or lodgings for the summer-season, to drink the mineral waters, which in many cases are deemed beneficial to health. The wells are designed with some taste, and are neatly laid out: the assembly-house is handsome and spacious, with pleasant gardens. Public breakfastings are here every Monday morning, and frequent assemblies of gentlemen and ladies are held for the benefit of agreeable conversation, and to partake of the pleasing amusements of the country.

*Swinley-Lodge*, which is not far from Sunning-Hill, belongs to the master of the buck-hounds. Here is always a number of deer, under his care and direction, kept for the royal chase. He appoints the days of hunting, takes care of the forest deer, and the King's stag and buck-hounds; and for this purpose has many inferior officers under him, who superintend the several parts of the forest, divided into different walks or appointments.—Many other villages also partake of the pleasures of the forest, and surround this royal castle, as Ingfield-Green, Old-Windsor, Datchet, &c. where gentlemen of fortune have their country seats. In the neighbourhood of Ingfield-green, and on the decline of the plain, is *Cooper's-Hill*, long since celebrated by Sir John Denham.

*Old Windsor* was formerly a place of note, and the residence of several of our Saxon monarchs before the time of William the First, who fixed upon the adjacent hill for his residence: and by this means, together with the castle, in a short time was raised a new town, while this once royal residence

dence went to decay, and retained little more than the honour of its antiquity, and giving name to the whole country around.

The Hon. Mr. Bateman, Lord Mulgrave, Lady Primrose, and Colonel Montague, have here their residence in the summer-season : the houses of the three first are most agreeably situated on the banks of the Thames, and have large walks and gardens. The seat of Colonel Montague, called Beaumont lodge, is on the hill, and commands a most extensive and delightful prospect of the river and country ; the gardens are large and extend to Ingfield-green, that lies behind. Mr. Bateman's house is a cabinet, or uncommon collection, of curiosities, chiefly antiques ; by some approved, by others held too minute and inconsiderable. But upon the whole, this house and gardens are a most agreeable villa ; and the plantations, or yew tree's shade, round the church, add to the pleasing scene, and, together, form the most enchanting rural spot.

*Datchet*, also a pleasant village, lies higher up the river, and has the conveniency of a bridge built by Queen Anne, with an entrance into Windsor Little Park. The course of the river, and the road round the park wall is most agreeable, especially on summer evenings. This village has of late been much improved, and is inhabited by many gentlemen of fortune, on account of its pleasant situation and vicinity to Windsor.

Near Newbury Mr. Andrews has built a house in the Gothic stile, and ornamented the grounds about it with much taste. It is situated on a rising ground, backed by a hill crowned with wood, out of which rises *Donnington-Castle*. A lawn spreads round the house, which ends in a very fine water ; a stream enlarged into a river, takes a winding easy course, near a mile long, and of a considerable breadth. There are three or four islands in it, one of which is thickly planted, and affords shelter to many swans and wild fowl which frequent the water, at the same time that they add to the beauty of the place. A winding gravel walk, through both the groves on the banks of the river, opens to several retired and pleasing scenes : On one spot is a pretty rustic Gothic temple, built of flint, near a cascade, which the river forms by falling over a natural ridge of stones. The whole place is laid out  
with



with taste ; the house is a good one ; the stair case peculiar, but agreeable, and the library a large handsome, and well proportioned room.

Donnington Castle, before-mentioned, was antiently the seat of Geoffrey Chaucer, the father of English poetry. They show you a place here, where, in his days, and even in the memory of some of the inhabitants now living, flourished a great oak, called Chaucer's oak, where, they tell you, he used to sit and compose his poems.

At *Bisham* was formerly an abbey, the remains of which are still to be seen. The estates belonged once to the Knights Templars, but are now the property of Sir John Hobby Mill, who has here built an elegant seat, on the banks of the Thames ; and a range of wood, which partly surrounds it, crowns the hills in a very noble manner. In the little church of *Bisham* are the monuments of this family, which are well worth seeing.

There are several agreeable villages in the neighbourhood of Newbury, particularly *Enbourne*, which is remarkable for the following singular and whimsical custom of the manor. The widow of every copyhold tenant is intitled to the whole copyhold estate of her husband, so long as she continues unmarried and chaste ; if she marries, she loses her widow's estate without remedy ; but if she is guilty of incontinence, she may recover her forfeiture, by riding into court on the next court day, mounted on a black ram, with her face towards the tail, and the tail in her hand, and repeating the following lines :

- “ Here I am, riding on a black ram,
- “ Like a whore as I am ;
- “ And for my *crincum crancum*
- “ Have lost my *bincum bancum*,
- “ And for my tail's game,
- “ Am brought to this worldly shame,
- “ Therefore, good Mr. Steward, let me have my lands again.”

At a little distance from Lambourne, is the most remarkable curiosity in Berkshire. This is the rude figure of a white horse, which takes up near an acre of ground, on the side of a green hill. A horse is known to have been the Saxon standard ; and some have supposed that this figure was made by Hengist, one of the Saxon Kings ; but Mr. Wise,  
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the author of a letter on this subject to Dr. Mead, published in 1738, brings several arguments to shew that it was made by the order of Alfred, in the reign of his brother Ethelred, as a monument of his victory gained over the Danes, in the year 871, near Ashdown, now called *Ashen* or *Ashbury Park*, which is at present one of the seats of Lord Craven, and at a little distance from this hill. Lord Craven's seat was built of the stones dug out of a Danish camp, which was formerly formed near this place.

There are other authors, however, who suppose the figure of the white horse to have been partly the effect of accident, and partly the work of shepherds, who observing a rude figure, somewhat resembling a horse, as there are in the veins of wood and stone many figures that resemble trees, caves, and other objects, reduced it by degrees to a more regular figure. But however this be, it has been a custom immemorial for the neighbouring peasants to assemble on a certain day about Midsummer, and clear away the weeds from this white horse, and trim the edges to preserve its colour and shape; after which the evening is spent in mirth and festivity.—The hill on which this horse stands is called *White Horse Hill*; and to the north of this hill there is a long valley reaching from the western side of the county, where it borders upon Wiltshire, as far as Wantage, which from this hill is called the *Vale of White Horse*, and is the most fertile part of the county.

About three miles eastward of Ilfley is a village called *Aldworth*, a place of great antiquity, where was formerly a castle, which was destroyed in the reign of King Edward the Third. The parish church is a venerable Gothic structure, and has in it several ancient monuments; among these are nine, with the figures of the deceased cut in stone, and lying in a sleeping posture; five of which are supposed to have been knights-templars. The church-yard is extremely rural, and has in it one of the finest yew-trees in England, being no less than twenty-seven feet in circumference.

The village of *Bray* is about a mile from Maidenhead, and is very famous, both on account of its antiquity, and a former vicar, who was twice a Papist, and twice a Protestant, in the reigns of Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, and the Queens Mary and Elizabeth.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.



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## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

**T**HIS county is bounded by the Thames, which divides it from Berkshire on the south; by Oxfordshire on the west; by Northamptonshire on the north; and by Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, and Middlesex on the east. It is thirty-nine miles in length, eighteen in breadth, and one hundred and thirty-eight in circumference; and contains eleven market-towns, eight hundreds, one hundred and eighty-five parishes, six hundred and fifteen villages, and about four hundred and forty-one thousand acres. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Lincoln.

This county is diversified with pleasant woods, and fine streams, which render it a charming retreat. Its chief rivers are the Thames, the Ouse, and the Coln. The soil is very fruitful, both in corn and pasture, and abounds with physical plants.

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### MARKET TOWNS.

BUCKINGHAM is the county town, and is sixty miles from London. It is washed on all sides but the north by the river Ouse, over which it has three stone bridges. The castle of the town, now in ruins, was built in the middle of it, and divides it into two parts. In the north part stands the town-hall, a very handsome convenient structure, in which are kept the weights and measures of the county. This town was for many years a staple for wool, and several of its wool-halls are yet standing; but that trade is now lost here. It is very populous; and the church, which is in the west part of the town, is a very large building, and, when its spire was standing, might be reckoned the best in the whole county, and  
was

was as high as most in England; but in 1698 was in part blown down, and has never since been re-built. In the year 1725, many of the old buildings in this town were destroyed by fire, which burnt out 138 families, and did near thirty three thousand pounds damage. The county-gaol was kept in the castle here, till it fell to decay; but a new one has been built; and by a late act the summer assizes, which had been sometimes held at Aylesbury, are always to be held here. This town sends two members to parliament.

AYLESBURY is a very ancient town, forty-four miles from London, and stands on a rising ground, at the east end of a rich valley, called *Aylesbury-Vale*, which feeds incredible numbers of cattle and sheep, remarkable for their size and fine fleeces; and extends almost from Thame on the edge of Oxfordshire, to Leighton in Bedfordshire. The town-hall of Aylesbury is an handsome fabric, in which the county assizes and sessions are often held, and stands in the middle of the market-place, which is a large handsome square. This is a neat, compact, and populous town, the best and largest in Buckinghamshire, and consists of several fine streets. It sends two members to parliament.

In the reign of William the Norman, Aylesbury was a royal manor, several parts of which that King gave to his favourites, to hold of him by the following odd tenure; namely, that they should find litter or straw for the King's bed and chambers, and provide him three eels in winter, and three green geese in summer, besides herbs for his chamber; and this they were to do thrice a year, if the King came hither so often.

Some of the principal public edifices in this town were erected at the expence of Sir John Baldwin, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in the reign of Henry the Eighth. He was otherwise a great benefactor to this town, and had a causeway made from the market-place towards London for the distance of three miles, at his own cost.

ETON, though in Buckinghamshire, may yet be said to be one and the same town with Windsor, by the ready communication of a bridge over the river. It is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames, in a delightful valley, and



is in a remarkable healthy soil. It has long been celebrated for the College here, which has produced a great number of eminent and learned men. *Eton College* was founded by Henry the Sixth, for the support of a provost and seven fellows, one of whom is vice-provost, and for the education of seventy King's scholars, as those are called, who are on the foundation. These when properly qualified, are elected, on the first Tuesday in August, to King's College, Cambridge, but they are not removed, till there are vacancies in the College, and then they are called according to seniority; and after they have been three years at Cambridge, they claim a fellowship. Besides those on the foundation, there are seldom less than three hundred scholars, at this time there are many more, who board at the masters' houses, or within the bounds of the College. The school is divided into upper and lower, and each of these into three classes. To each school there is a master and four assistants or ushers. The revenue of the college is about five thousand pounds a year. Here is a noble library enriched by a fine collection of books left by Dr. Waddington, Bishop of Chester, valued at two thousand pounds, and Lord Chief Justice Reeves presented to this library the collection left him by Richard Topham, Esq; keeper of the records in the Tower. In the great court is a fine statue of the founder, erected at the expence of the late provost Dr. Godolphin, Dean of St. Paul's. The chapel is in a good stile of Gothic architecture. The schools and other parts, which are in another style of building, are equally well, and seem like the design of Inigo Jones.

**HIGH WICCOMBE** is thirty-two miles from London, in the road to Oxford. It is supposed to derive its name from a small stream, which glides through the low grounds near this place into the Thames. The town has on each side of it pleasant hills shaded with woods, and may for antiquity, extent, and beauty, compare with the greatest and best in the county. It is a corporation, governed by a mayor, aldermen, common-council, recorder, and other officers. It has two principal streets, one of which is spacious, and well built with good brick houses, and full of large inns. Queen Elizabeth gave lands for the maintenance of a free-grammar-school in this town. The assizes are sometimes held here, and this town sends two members to Parliament.

This







This place is supposed to have been a Roman station ; for in the year 1724, a Roman pavement was discovered by some workmen, who were digging in a neighbouring meadow belonging to Lord Shelburne. It was about nine feet square, and consisted of stones of various colours, wrought with exquisite art ; but the largest was not broader than the square of a die.

GREAT MARLOW is a borough-town, thirty-one miles from London, which derives its name from the marly soil in which it stands. It is a considerable town, with a bridge over the Thames, not far from the place where it receives the Wycombe river ; and has an handsome church and town hall. The chief manufacture of the town is bone-lace, but it is of more account for the navigation carried on by the Thames for meal, malt, and beech timber. There are several corn and paper-mills in its neighbourhood, particularly on the little river Loddon ; and also three remarkable mills called Temple Mills, or the brass mills for making kettles, pans, &c. besides a mill for making thimbles ; and another for pressing oil from rape and flax seed.

STONEY STRATFORD is supposed to derive its name from the stoney street that runs through it, and the ford where travellers used formerly to pass the Ouse. It is distant from London, in the road to Chester, fifty-two miles. The town is rather large, and the houses in general are built of free-stone, which is dug from a quarry very near the town. The Ouse is now crossed by a stone bridge at the ford, and sometimes swells so high, that it breaks into the neighbouring fields with great violence, especially on that side next the town, the banks on the other side being somewhat higher. This town has two parish churches, and also two chapels, and a small charity school. In 1743, a fire broke out here, which consumed one hundred and fifty houses, but that damage has been since repaired, and the town in general makes an handsome appearance. The chief manufacture of the place is bone-lace.

AMERSHAM is an ancient borough town, situated in a valley between two woody hills, near the river Coln. It consists of two streets, a long one and a short one, which cross



each other at right angles in the middle. In the area where these streets intersect each other, stands the church, which is the best rectory in the county. Here is a handsome town-hall and a free-school.

NEWPORT PAGNELL is a well-built and populous market-town, and has two stone bridges over the Ouse. It is a kind of staple for bone-lace, of which, it is said, more is made in this town, and in the neighbouring villages, than in any other town in the kingdom.

WINSLOW is a small town, surrounded with woods, but has nothing in it remarkable.—In the manor of Crendon near this town, there was an abbey, or priory, for regular canons of the order of St. Augustine, called *Noctele*, or *Nuttley*. It was built and endowed by Walter Giffard, the second Earl of Buckingham, and Ermengard his wife, in the year 1162. Some of the ruins of this abbey are still standing, and near it are the remains of an ancient castle.

BEACONSFIELD is a market-town in the road to Oxford, and contains some good inns, but has nothing in it that is very remarkable.

FENNY STRATFORD is an ancient market-town, in which there are many good inns, and several fine houses. It is a pleasant and thriving town.

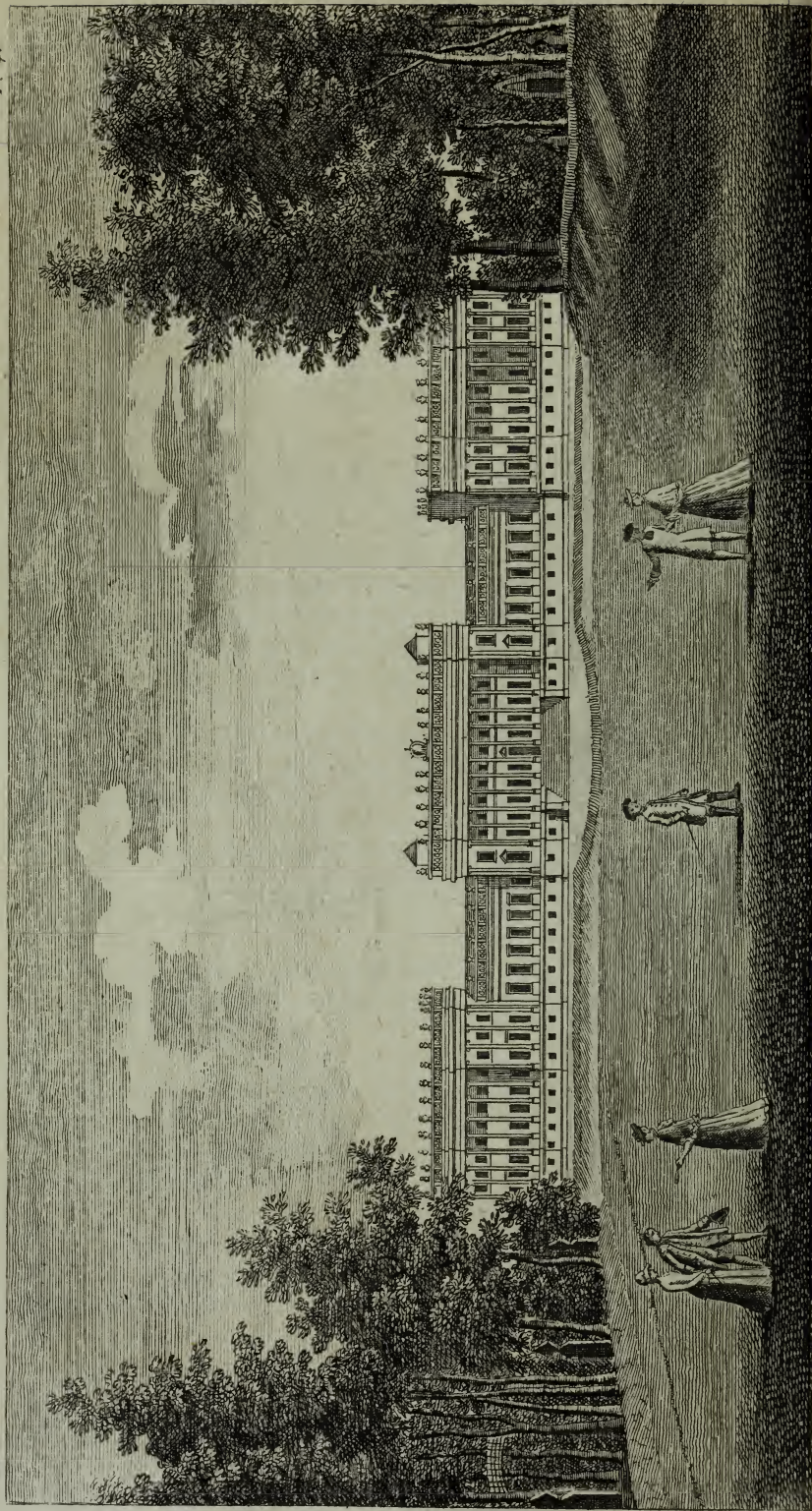
OULNEY is but an inconsiderable town, and has hardly any thing remarkable in it besides its church, which has a very fine spire.

IVINGO was formerly a town of great repute, and had a convent of Benedictine nuns, but it is so reduced at present as to be little better than a village, though it has a kind of weekly market.

COLEBROOK, or COLNBROOK, part of which is in Buckinghamshire, and part in Middlesex, is eighteen miles from London. It stands on four channels of the river Coln, over each of which it has a bridge. The principal support of the place are the inns, on account of its being in the Bath road.  
The







The market is on Wednesdays, and a fair is held here the third week in April. Here is a charity-school, and an ancient chapel, said to have been founded by King Edward the Third.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

*Stow*, the celebrated seat of Earl Temple, is about two miles north-west from Buckingham, well situated in a fine spot, which is much more beautiful than any of the surrounding country. The house is large; it extends in one line of front for nine hundred feet. A grand flight of steps, designed by Signior Borra, ornamented with balustrades, leads us to the saloon, which is a grand apartment hung with tapestry, representing the functions of the cavalry. The dimensions of this room are forty-three feet by twenty-two; the furniture is crimson, ornamented with two marble busts, a rich cabinet, and fine china jars.

The hall is a spacious room, thirty-six feet by twenty-two and an half, designed and painted by Kent. Its ceiling is enriched with the signs of the zodiac, and the walls are adorned with festoons of flowers, &c. Over the chimney is a curious piece of alto relievo, the story of which is Darius's tent. Here are also eleven marble busts properly disposed.

The dining-room is a well-proportioned apartment, forty-three feet by twenty-five, in which are some fine paintings, particularly a dancing at the Duke of Mantua's marriage, by Tintoret, a landscape by Claude Lorraine, the marriage at Cana by Bassan, and Moses burying the Egyptian by Poussin. There are also in this room three pieces of statuary that deserve attention; a Narcissus, whose attitude is easy, and the figure elegant; Vertumnus and Pomona, by Scheemacher; and a Venus and Adonis by Delveau. The Venus is very delicate and beautiful.

The grand stair case is ornamented with iron work, and enriched with three ceiling pieces, painted by Sclater; namely, justice and peace, fame and victory, plenty and constancy.

The chapel is wainscotted with cedar, and has a gallery of the same, hung with crimson velvet. Its dimensions are  
thirty.



thirty-seven feet by twenty feet ten inches, and twenty-six feet high. Over the communion table is a fine painting of the resurrection, by Tintoret; and over that is the King's arms, richly carved and ornamented. Above the cedar wainscot, are the following paintings at full length, viz. Moses and Aaron, St. Peter and St. Paul, the four evangelists, the ascension, baptism, and the salutation of the Virgin Mary. The cieling is the same as in the chapel royal at St. James's, and the cedar wainscot enriched with elegant carving, by Gibbons.

In Lady Temple's dressing-room, the hangings, chairs, and window curtains, are of fine printed cotton; and there is here a fine old japan cabinet, ornamented with china jars; and a fine view of Pekin over the chimney-piece, by Iolli.

In her ladyship's bed-chamber, the hangings, chairs, &c. are the same as the Dressing-room; with a picture of a Chinese temple over the chimney, by Iolli.

The Chinese closet is the repository of her ladyship's valuable china. The japan and ornaments were a present from the late Prince and Princess of Wales. From hence we enter a colonade adorned with paintings by Sclater. It is embellished with exotics and flowering shrubs. The Grenville room is twenty-nine feet eight inches by twenty-six feet three inches, and nineteen feet four inches high, is hung with green velvet, and ornamented with portraits at full length of the Grenville family.

The gallery is a magnificent apartment, seventy-four feet by twenty-five feet, and twenty feet high, with gobelin tapestry chairs, and is hung with three fine pieces of tapestry, viz. a beautiful representation of a farm, a Dutch wake from Teniers, and a Dutch fishery, from the same. The two chimnies have pictures of Roman ruins over each, by Pannini. The four doors have rural pictures over each, viz. plowing, reaping, hay-making, and sheep-shearing. And a rich cabinet at each end containing books; and ten marble busts of Roman Emperors.

In the waiting-room are some fine pictures, particularly Cymon and Iphigenia, by Guerchino; gold pouring into the mouth of Crassus, by Pouffin; and a very curious piece by Albert Durer, the subject Joan of Arc musing on her expedition.

In



In the private drawing-room is a fine picture of Samson, by Rembrandt, the expression of which is very great ; a landscape by Claude Lorraine ; Rubens's first wife, by Rubens ; Sileno, by the same ; the Duke of Sully, by Vandyke ; Samson and Delilah, by Guerchino ; and a portrait of Oliver Cromwell, by Old Richardson.

The state gallery is seventy feet long, and twenty-two high, and is a very beautiful room. It is hung with Brussels tapestry, representing the triumphs of Diana, Mars, Venus, Bacchus, and Ceres. The ceiling is stuccoed in compartments, and ornamented with medallions, and paintings in obscura.

The state bed-chamber is extremely magnificent, the bed and ceiling by Signor Borra ; and is finely furnished with crimson damask and gold ornaments.—The state closet is hung with blue damask, finely ornamented with carving and gilding ; out of which we go into a colonade, where is a beautiful view of the gardens and the country. The passage is ornamented with marble busts.

The gardens at Stow have long been considered as the most magnificent in England, and have always been admired by persons of taste ; and have therefore a natural claim to a particular description in our work. The southern entrance of the gardens is formed by two pavilions of the Doric order, designed by Sir John Vanbrugh ; the walls of which are adorned with paintings, in fresco, the stories taken from Pastor Fido. Almost the first striking object that occurs in the gardens, is an obelisk near seventy feet high, designed for a jet de eau, and placed in the middle of a large octagon piece of water. At some distance we perceive two rivers, which are at last united, and enter the octagon in one stream. Over one of these is a Palladian bridge. From this point a Gothic temple, seventy feet in height, appears on the top of an hill. On the left is an Egyptian pyramid ; from whence we are conducted to the cold bath. Here we have a prospect of a natural cascade, falling from the last-mentioned octagon, in three distinct sheets, into an extensive lake. One of the sheets passes through the arch of an artificial ruin, covered with evergreens.

These noble gardens contain a great variety of elegant edifices and decorations. The building called the hermitage is built of rough stone, and agreeably situated in a rising wood  
on

on the banks of the lake ; not far from which are the statues of Cain and Abel, finely executed. The temple of Venus is a square building, with colonade wings. It was designed by Kent, and is painted with the story of Hellenore and Malbecco, from Spenser's Fairy Queen. The room is adorned with a naked Venus ; and the smaller compartments with a variety of intrigues. Upon the frieze is the following motto from Catullus :

*Nunc amet qui nunquam amavit ;  
Quique amaret, nunc amet.*

Let him love now, who never lov'd before :  
Let him, who always lov'd, now love the more.

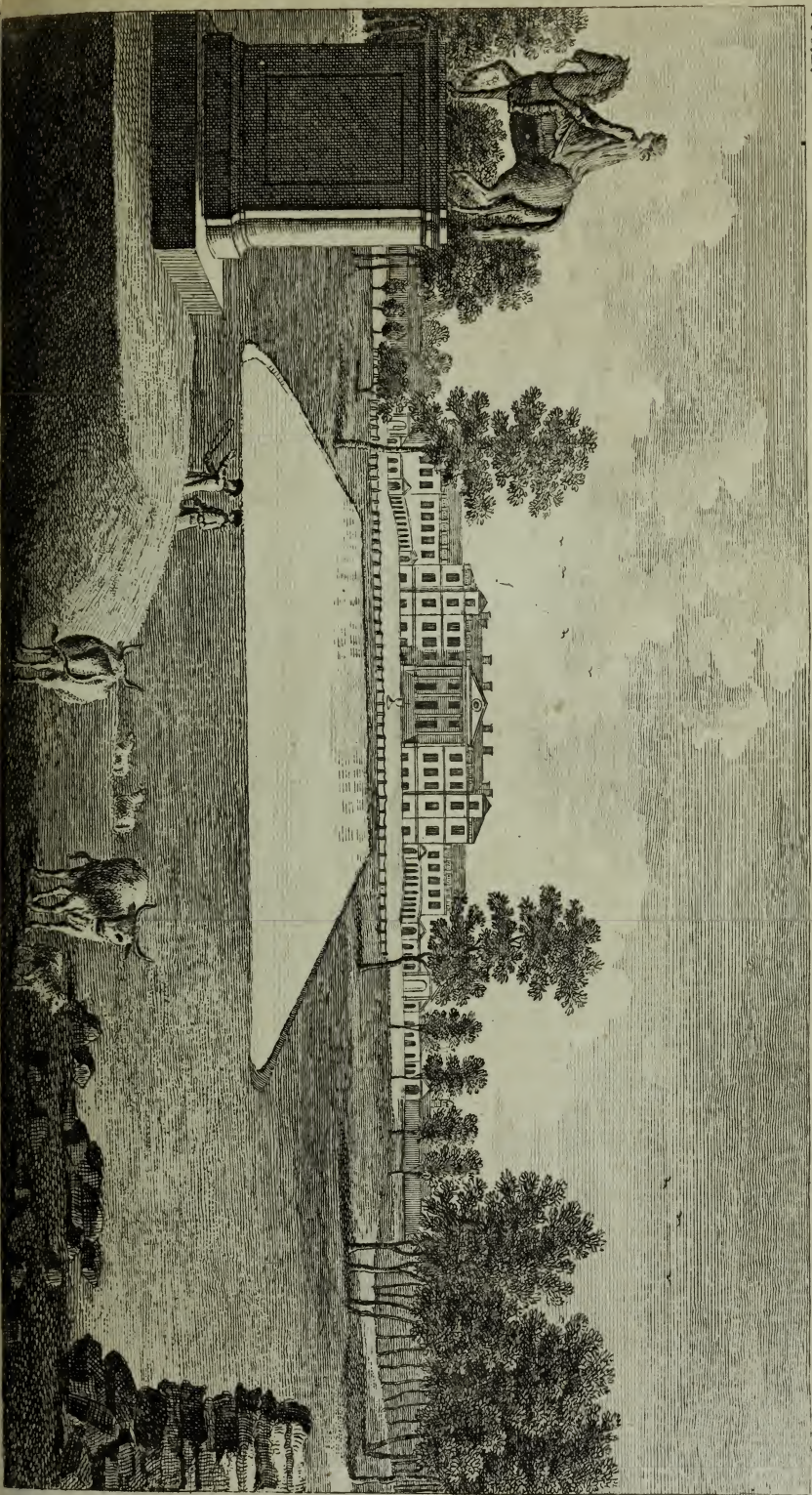
Underneath the belvidere, or Gibbes's building, is an ice-house ; at some distance from which are the Roman boxers, admirably copied. Here are also two pavilions, one of which is used as a dwelling house ; and the other is ornamented with the statues of Julius Cæsar, Cicero, Portia, and Livia.

The Egyptian pyramid, which was before-mentioned, and which is sixty feet in height, has a Latin inscription to the following purpose: " To the memory of Sir John Vanbrugh, " by whom several of the buildings in these gardens were designed, Lord Cobham erected this pyramid."

In a field, enclosed with a fence of stakes, after the military manner, are the statues of Hercules and Antæus. St. Augustine's cave is a monastic cell, built with moss and roots : within is a straw couch, and several Latin inscriptions, in the stile of the old Monkish Latin verse. The temple of Bacchus is an edifice of brick, the inside of which is adorned with Bacchanalian scenes, painted by Nollikins ; and here are two vases in a very masterly taste. The Saxon temple is an altar situated in an open grove, about which the seven Saxon deities, which denominate the several days of the week, were formerly placed ; but these have since been removed to the Gothic temple.

Nelson's seat is an elegant little building, from whence there is an agreeable open prospect. In the inside are some paintings, with inscriptions. At the head of the canal, opposite the north front of the house, is an equestrian statue of King George the First, in compleat armour. There is also a statue of his late Majesty, King George the Second, raised on a Corinthian









Corinthian pillar. And in a rural amphitheatre is a statue of Queen Caroline, erected on four Ionic columns.

Dido's cave is a retired dark building with this inscription from Virgil :

“ *Speluncam Dido, Dux et Trojanus, eandem,*

“ *Deveniunt.*

“ Repairing to the same dark cave are seen,

“ The Trojan Hero, and the Tyrian Queen.”

The rotunda, which was designed by Sir John Vanbrugh, is supported by Ionic pillars. Within, is a statue of Venus de Medicis on a pedestal of blue marble. Scarcely any object in the whole garden shews itself to more advantage, than this structure ; or makes a more beautiful figure, from several different points of prospect.

The sleeping parlour is a square building, with an elegant Ionic portico, situated in a close wood, with this Epicurean inscription : *Cum omnia sint in incerto, fave tibi* ; i. e. Since all things are uncertain, indulge thyself. The witch-house is a kind of hut, on the walls of which is roughly painted the midnight merriment of hags.

The temple of ancient virtue is a compleat and beautiful rotunda of the Ionic order, designed by Kent. Over each door on the outside, is this motto : “ *Priscæ Virtuti* ;” To ancient virtue. It is adorned with statues of Lysurgus, Socrates, Homer, and Epaminondas, under which are Latin inscriptions to the following purpose :

Lysurgus, having planned with consummate wisdom a constitution, secured against every inroad of corruption, this truly great father of his country bequeathed to his citizens a lasting liberty ; luxury being kept out by the disuse of wealth.

Socrates, innocent amidst corruption, an encourager of good men, a worshipper of one God, the wisest of men, delivered philosophy from an idle scholastic life, and introduced her into society, to amend mankind.

Homer, the first as well as best of poets, whose genius subservient wholly to the cause of virtue, instructed mankind, by a language universally known, in the godlike arts of daring and suffering heroically.

Epaminondas, by whose courage, prudence, and moderation, the Theban commonwealth obtained liberty and empire,



an happy establishment as well civil as military : and by whose death it lost them.

Over one of the doors of this edifice is also the following inscription : “ *Charum esse civem, bene de republica mereri, laudari, coli, diligere, gloriosum est : metui vero, et in odio esse, invidiosum, detestabile, imbecillum, caducum ;*” i. e. To be dear to our country and to deserve well of the state, to be honoured, revered, and loved, is truly glorious ; but to be dreaded and hated of mankind is base, detestable, weak, impolitick.

Over the other door is as follows : “ *Iustitiam cole et pietatem, quæ cum sit magna in parentibus et propinquis, tum in patria maxima est. Ea vita via est in cælum, et in hunc cætum eorum qui jam vixerunt ;*” i. e. An affection for our friends and relations is amiable ; but for our country divine. This is the path to future happiness, and the assembly of those who have already lived.

From the temple of ancient virtue, you look down on a very beautiful winding hollow lawn, scattered with single trees in the happiest manner, through the stems of which the water breaks to the eye in a stile admirably picturesque. Near to this temple in a thicket, is the temple of modern virtue, satirically represented in ruins.

The gardens continue extremely various and beautiful, till you come to the Princess Amelia’s arch, from which you at once break upon a scenery truly enchanting ; being more like a rich picturesque composition, than the effect of an artful management of ground and buildings. The lawn from the arch, falls in various waves into the water, at the bottom of the vale : it is scattered with trees, whose spreading tops unite, and leave the eye an irregular command among their stems of a double wave on the lake. The smooth green of the lawn, obscured in some places by the shade of the trees, in others illuminated by the sun, forms an object as beautiful as can be imagined ; nor can any thing be more picturesque than the water appearing through the fore-ground of the scene, thus canopied with trees. A break in the grove presents a compleat picture above these beautiful varieties of wood and water : first, the Palladian-bridge, backed by a rising ground scattered with wood ; and at the top of that a castle. The objects of the whole scene, though various, and some distant, are most happily united to form a compleat view,  
equally

equally magnificent and pleasing; indeed it is the richest that is seen at Stow.

The Palladian bridge is adorned with several antique marble bustos. The roof on the side facing the water, is supported by Ionic pillars. The back wall is covered with a fine piece of Alto Relievo, which represents the four quarters of the world bringing their various products to Britannia. Here are also paintings of Sir Walter Raleigh, with a map of Virginia; and of William Penn, presenting the laws of Pennsylvania.

After crossing the serpentine river, we pass into the elysian fields, a most delicious retreat, consisting of beautiful waves of close shaven grass; breaking among wood, and scattered with single trees; bounded on one side by thick groves, and shelving on the other down to the water, which winds in a very happy manner; and commanding from several spots, various landscapes of the distant parts of the gardens.

The temple of British worthies, is a semi-circular wall, adorned with the following bustos and inscriptions:

Sir Thomas Gresham, who by the honourable profession of a merchant having enriched himself and his country, for carrying on the commerce of the world, built the Royal Exchange.

Ignatius Jones, who, to adorn his country, introduced and rivalled the Greek and Roman architecture.

John Milton, whose sublime and unbounded genius equalled a subject that carried him beyond the limits of the world.

William Shakespeare, whose excellent genius opened to him the whole heart of man, all the mines of fancy, all the stores of nature, and gave him power, beyond all other writers, to move, astonish, and delight mankind.

John Locke, who, best of all philosophers, understood the powers of the human mind, the nature, end, and bounds of civil government; and with equal courage and sagacity, refused the slavish systems of usurped authority over the rights, the consciences, and the reason of mankind.

Sir Isaac Newton, whom the God of nature made to comprehend his works; and from simple principles, to discover the laws never known before, and to explain the appearances, never understood, of this stupendous universe.



Sir Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam ; who, by the strength and light of a superior genius, rejecting vain speculation, and fallacious theory, taught to pursue truth, and improve philosophy by the certain method of experiment.

King Alfred, the mildest, justest, most beneficent of Kings ; who drove out the Danes, secured the seas, protected learning, established juries, crushed corruption, guarded liberty, and was the founder of the English constitution.

Edward, Prince of Wales, the terror of Europe, the delight of England ; who preserved unaltered, in the height of glory and fortune, his natural gentleness and modesty.

Queen Elizabeth, who confounded the projects, and destroyed the power that threatened to oppress the liberties of Europe ; took off the yoke of ecclesiastical tyranny, restored religion from the corruptions of Popery : and, by a wise, a moderate, and a popular government, gave wealth, security, and respect to England.

King William the Third, who by his virtue, and constancy, having saved his country from a foreign master, by a bold and generous enterprize, preserved the liberty and religion of Great Britain.

Sir Walter Raleigh, a valiant soldier, and an able statesman ; who, endeavouring to rouse the spirit of his master, for the honour of his country, against the ambition of Spain, fell a sacrifice to the influence of that court, whose arms he had vanquished, and whose designs he had opposed.

Sir Francis Drake, who, through many perils, was the first of Britons who ventured to sail round the globe ; and carried into unknown seas and nations the knowledge and glory of the English name.

John Hampden, who with great spirit and consummate abilities, began a noble opposition to an arbitrary court, in defence of the liberties of his country ; supported them in parliament, and died for them in the field.—There are also in this temple busts of Mr. Pope, and Sir John Barnard.

In the nich of a pyramid is placed a Mercury, with these words inscribed, *Campos ducit ad Elysios* ; i. e. Leads to the elysian-fields. And below this figure is fixed a square of black marble, on which are the following lines :

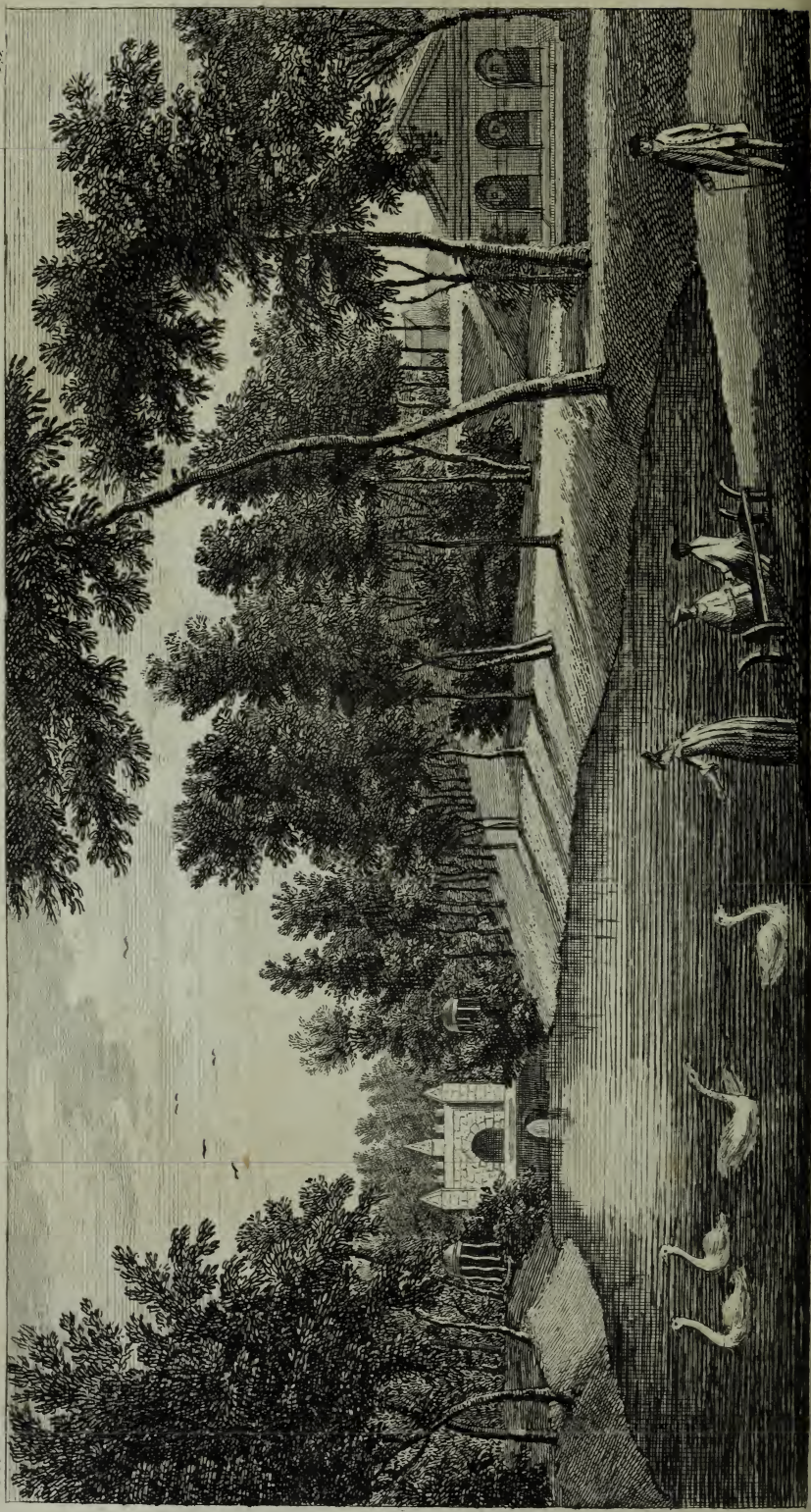
“ *Hic manus ob patriam pugnando vulnera passi,*

“ *Quique pii vates, et Phæbo digna locuti,*

“ *Inventas*







The Embankment, P. 100









- “ *Inventas aut qui vitam excoluere per artes,*  
 “ *Quique sui memores alios fecere merendo.*  
 “ Heroes are here, who for their country bled,  
 “ And bards whose pure and sacred verse is read;  
 “ Those who, by arts invented, life improv’d,  
 “ And public merit made their mem’ries lov’d.

The Chinese house is situated, after the Chinese manner, upon a large piece of water. We enter it by a bridge, decorated with Chinese vases. It is a square building, with four lattices, and covered with sail-cloth. The windows and roof, together with its cool situation on the lake, afford us a just specimen of the manner of living in a hot country. Within is the figure of a Chinese lady asleep. The outside of the house is painted in the Chinese taste, and the inside is India Japan work.

The grotto, situated at the head of the serpentine river, is furnished with a great number of looking-glasses, both on the walls and cielings, fixed in frames of plaister-work, stuck with shells and flints. It has a marble statue of Venus, on a pedestal adorned in the same manner. On each side is a pavilion; one of which is ornamented with shells, the other with broken flints and pebbles.

The ladies temple is supported by arches, with Venetian windows. The inside is beautified with the following paintings by Sclater: On the right side, ladies employed in needle and shell-work; on the opposite side, ladies employed in painting and music.

The late Anne, Viscountess Cobham, erected in these gardens, fluted columns, to the memory of her husband Lord Cobham; on one side of which are the following lines:

- “ *Quatenus nobis denegatur diu vivere,*  
 “ *Relinquamus aliquid,*  
 “ *Quo nos vixisse testemur.*  
 “ As we cannot live long,  
 “ Let us leave something behind us,  
 “ To shew that we have lived.

Passing by this column, from whence is a view through the wood of the temple of concord, you come by winding walks to the banquetting-room, from whence is a fine varied prospect; and the Corinthian arch appears to advantage. From  
 hence



hence you are conducted to the temple of concord and victory, and in the way, pass a most beautiful winding hollow lawn; the brows of all the surrounding slopes, finely spread with woods, thick in some places, and in others scattered so as to open for the eye to follow the bends of the lawn, which is every where different. The temple is excellently situated on the brow of one of the hills: it is a very fine building; an oblong totally surrounded by a colonade of well-proportioned pillars. The architecture is light and pleasing. There is a room here, ornamented with a statue of liberty, and several medallions in the walls.

From hence the walk leads next to a sequestered winding vale, finely surrounded with wood; and a small water takes its course through it, broken by woody islands, and a various obscured shore. At the head, the grotto of shells looks down on the water in a pleasing manner; and must be particularly beautiful when the woods and waters are illuminated; which they are when Lord Temple sups in it. Here is a statue of Venus rising from the bath; a pleasing statue, and the attitude naturally taken.

The imperial closet is a square room, in which are painted in fresco, the Emperors Titus, Trajan, and Antoninus; each of whom is respectively distinguished by a memorable saying of his own, fixed over him, as follows:

“ Imp. Titus Cæs. Vespasian.

“ *Diem perdidit*—I have lost a day.

“ Imp. N. Trajan Cæs. Au.

“ *Pro me: si merear, in me.*

“ For me—if I deserve it, against me\*.

(Alluding to his sword.)

“ Imp. Marcus Aurelius Cæsar Antoninus.

“ *Ita regnes imperator, ut privatus regi te velis.*

“ So govern, being an Emperor, as you would wish

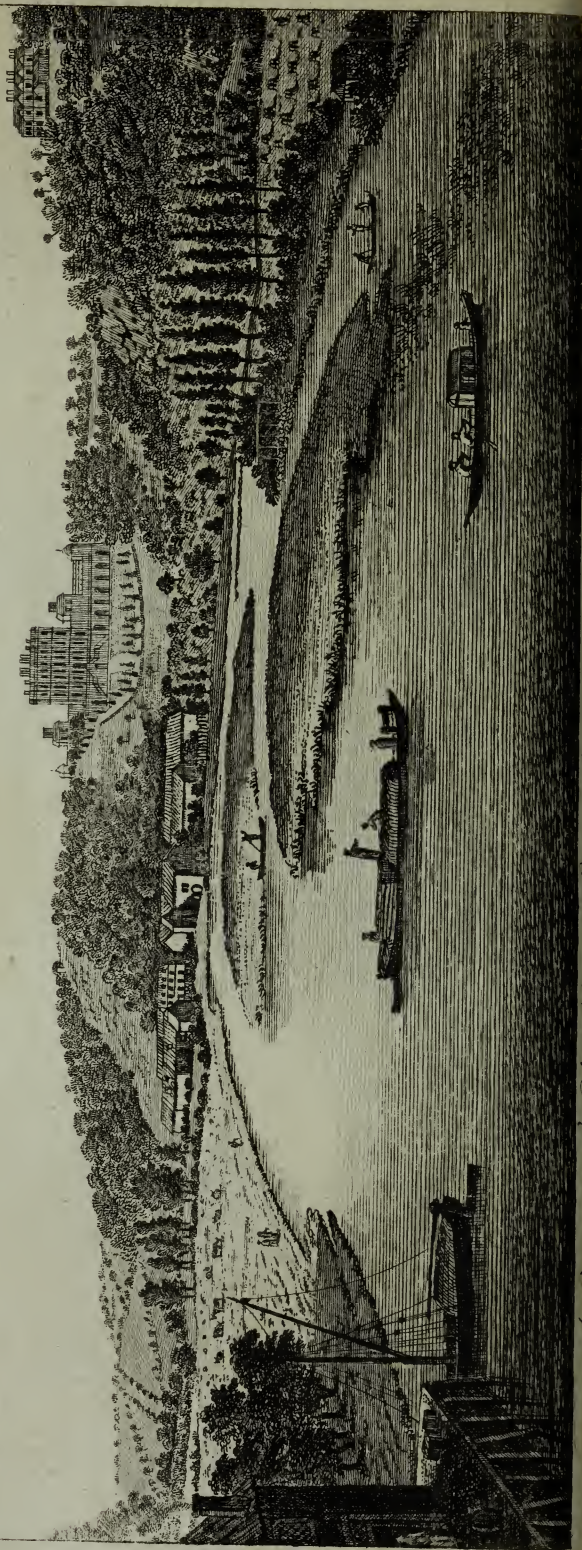
“ to be governed, if a subject.

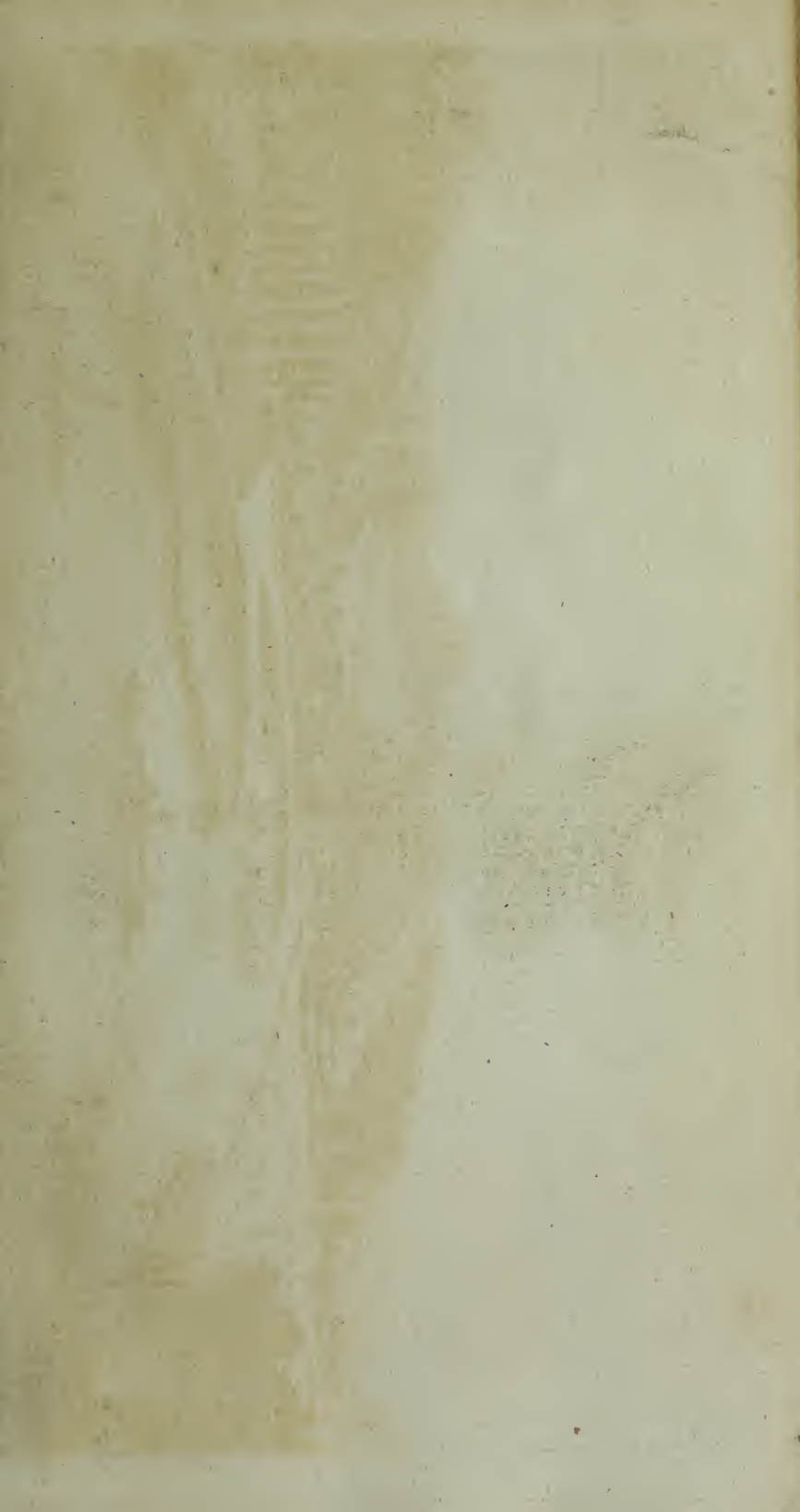
A grand terrace, near three hundred feet long, leads us to the temple of friendship; which is a well proportioned structure of the Doric order. The emblem of friendship over the

\* This noble sentiment of Trajan's, that the sword of justice ought to be employed for him if he governed well, but *against* him if he governed ill, is what few modern Princes would have the magnanimity to assent to.

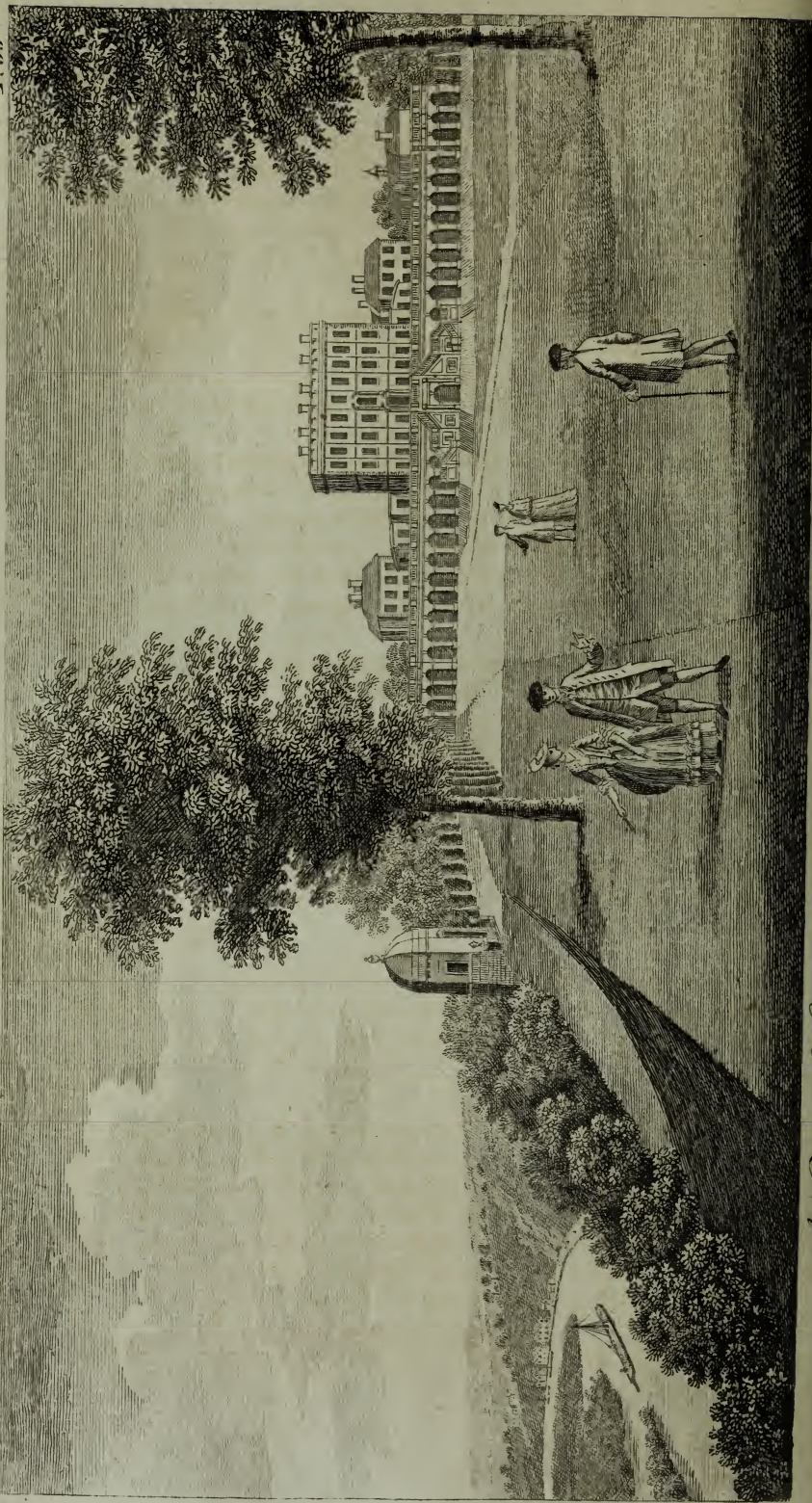












*A View of St. John's Hall in Dublin. 1*

the door, those of justice and liberty, with the rest of the decorations, are elegantly touched. Britannia is seated upon the ceiling. On the one side are exhibited the glory of her annals, the reigns of Edward the Third and Queen Elizabeth. On the other is offered the reign of \* \* \* \*, which she covers with her mantle, and seems unwilling to accept.—Here are also the busts of the late Lord, and his illustrious friends; viz. Frederick Prince of Wales; the Earls of Chesterfield, Westmoreland, and Marchmont; the Lords Bathurst and Gower; the late Earls of Chatham and Temple, and the good Lord Lyttleton.

There is likewise in these gardens a monument erected to the memory of Congreve; the embellishments of which are emblematical of that celebrated poet's comic genius. And also another monument erected by Lord Cobham, in honour of his nephew Captain Thomas Grenville, who was killed bravely fighting against the French, in a fleet commanded by Admiral Anson.

There is in Stow Gardens so great a variety of beauties, that the spectator, whose mind is capable of being moved, either with grace or majesty, cannot, without reluctance, leave a place so properly calculated to inform the judgement, and interest the fancy; where art appears without affectation, and nature without extravagance.

*Cliefden-House* is five miles north-west of Windsor, and is remarkable, both on account of its most beautiful situation, and also because it was the ordinary residence of the late Prince of Wales, father to the present King. The house was built by George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, in the reign of King Charles the Second, and came by marriage of the heiress of that family to the late Earl of Orkney, who greatly improved both the house and gardens, which were also farther extended and enlarged by the late Prince of Wales, and made most delightful, insomuch that wherever the eye is turned, nothing offers to the sight but the most agreeable avenues, parterres, and fine lawns, and these heightened by an extensive view of the river Thames, and a most beautiful and well cultivated country: the house is a stately regular edifice, and the rooms spacious and noble: in the grand chamber the tapestry hangings represent the battles of the late Duke of Marlborough, wrought to great perfection, by order of the late



late Earl of Orkney, who was himself an officer of superior rank in those glorious campaigns; on the front of the house is raised a most noble terrace or walk, which is said to be higher than the terrace of Windsor Castle; it is certain, the prospect here is equally extensive and beautiful.

*Ditton Park* is an ancient and venerable mansion, situated in the parish of Datchet, and was built by Sir Ralph Winwood, Secretary of State to King James the First. It came afterwards into the family of Montagu, and on the death of the late Duke, this house and manor of Datchet came to the Dutchess of Manchester, eldest daughter and joint heiress to that noble family. The house is built in the form of a castle, surrounded by a large moat of water, and in the middle of a pleasant park, well planted with timber; the apartments are large, and beautifully painted, and in the picture gallery is a good collection of paintings, many of them by the first masters. Lord Beaulieu married the Dutchess of Manchester, and has much improved the house and gardens.

There are also several other fine seats in this neighbourhood; particularly *Langley Park*, the seat of the Duke of Marlborough. The house is a noble edifice built by the late Duke, all of stone, has commodious offices, and is most agreeably designed, situated in a large park, with shady walks, and has a beautiful lawn and canal: the banquetting-house on the rising ground of the park, adds to the prospect from the terrace of Windsor Castle.

At a small distance is *Percy Lodge*, the seat of the Earl of Tankerville. This was the residence of the late Dutchess of Somerset, after the decease of the Duke. The gardens and park are large, and beautifully designed.

*Langley-Green*, *Wexham*, and *Stoke-Green* are in this neighbourhood. In the first mentioned green, Lord Granard has lately built a commodious and elegant seat; and in these villages are many agreeable houses of gentlemen of fortune, who constantly reside here: In the last mentioned green General Howard has a most pleasant seat and gardens.

*Stoke-House* lately belonged to the Lady Cobham, but on her decease was purchased by Mr. Penn, one of the proprietors

tors and governors of Pennsylvania. It is an ancient and noble edifice, with a large and pleasant park; and adjoining to the house is the parish church of Stoke, and a neat hospital, built and endowed by a Countess of Huntingdon, for the support and maintenance of twelve old and indigent persons of both sexes. The scite of this ancient hospital has of late been removed, and a new one built in an adjoining convenient part of the neighbourhood, by Mr. Penn.

*Bailey's*, not far from hence, is an agreeable seat belonging to the Earl of Godolphin.

*Farnham* and *East-Burnham* are pleasant villages, and have many agreeable houses and villas, particularly the elegant house and gardens of Mr. Charles Eyre. Near Burnham is *Hitcham-House*, situated in a valley, which was formerly the country residence of that learned physician, Dr. Friend, to whose family it at present belongs, but is now in the possession of Lady Windsor. The gardens are large, and well designed; and in the hall is an original painting of the late Queen Caroline, which that Princess presented to Dr. Friend.

The village of *Taploe*, which is not far distant, is of so pleasant a situation, that it has caused many gentlemen of fortune of late to reside here, who have built very agreeable houses. The manor-house on the summit of the hill is an ancient and noble building, and enjoys a most beautiful prospect over the country, and the river Thames, which runs underneath. This house belongs to the Earl of Inchiquin, who resided here during the life of the late Prince of Wales; but on his highness's death, his lordship removed to Cliefden House.

*Undercombe* is the agreeable seat of Thomas Eyre, Esq; and here are also the ruins of the ancient nunnery of Burnham. It was of the order of St. Austin, and consisted of an abbess, and seven or eight nuns. It was founded by Richard, King of the Romans, in the year 1165, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

*Dawney Court* is the seat of Sir Charles Palmer, Bart. of the family of Roger Palmer, Earl of Castlemain, who was



sent by King James the Second on the costly embassy to Rome in the year 1687; and the magnificent state-coach, made use of by that nobleman on that ignominious occasion, was many years kept here.

*Monk's Risborough* is only remarkable for the antiquities in its neighbourhood; particularly an old fortification, called Bellinus's castle; and some trenches and fortifications supposed to have been made when the Romans were in Britain. And not far from Monk's Risborough, there is a high steep chalky hill, on the south-west side of which there is the figure of a cross, an hundred feet long, formed by trenches cut into the chalk about two feet deep, which is supposed to be the work of the Saxons.—Near Monk's Risborough is *Prince's Risborough*, where on the top of a hill are the traces of a camp; and it is said that thirteen counties may be seen from hence,

About four miles from Ivingo is the pleasant village of *Ashbridge*, which is delightfully situated. The Duke of Bridgewater has a fine house and gardens here, with parks well stored with all sorts of game. Vast numbers of cattle are fed in the neighbourhood of Ashbridge, particularly sheep, whose fleeces are equal, if not superior, to any other in England.



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## CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

**T**HIS county is bounded on the west by Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire; on the south by Hertfordshire and Essex; on the north by Lincolnshire; and on the east by Norfolk and Suffolk. It extends about forty miles from north to south, and from east to west about twenty-five. It is divided into seventeen hundreds, and contains one city and eight market-towns, one hundred and sixty-three parishes, about two hundred and seventy-nine villages, and five hundred and seventy thousand acres.

The face of this county affords great variety; and a considerable tract of land in it is distinguished by the name of the Isle of Ely. It consists of fenny ground, divided by innumerable channels and drains, and is part of a very spacious level, containing three hundred thousand acres of land, and extending from this county into Norfolk, Suffolk, Huntingdonshire, Northamptonshire, and Lincolnshire. The Isle of Ely is the northern division of the county, and extends southward almost as far as Cambridge. The whole level of which this is part, is bounded on one side by the sea, and on the others by uplands, which, taken together, form a kind of rude semi-circle, resembling a horse-shoe. As this part of the county is all meadow and fen ground, vast herds of cattle are bred here; and the numerous lakes, rivers, and canals, which divide the fens, abound in fish and wild-fowl, and give the inhabitants an easy communication with several counties, as well as with the sea, which occasions a very brisk trade here. On the east part of the county are those fine downs, which go by the name of Newmarket-heath, and Gogmagog-hills; and on the west, towards Royston, are downs no less extensive, intermixed with corn fields.

The chief rivers are, the Grant, the Ouse, and the Nen, which run generally from west to east, and having received several lesser streams in their course, fall into the German sea



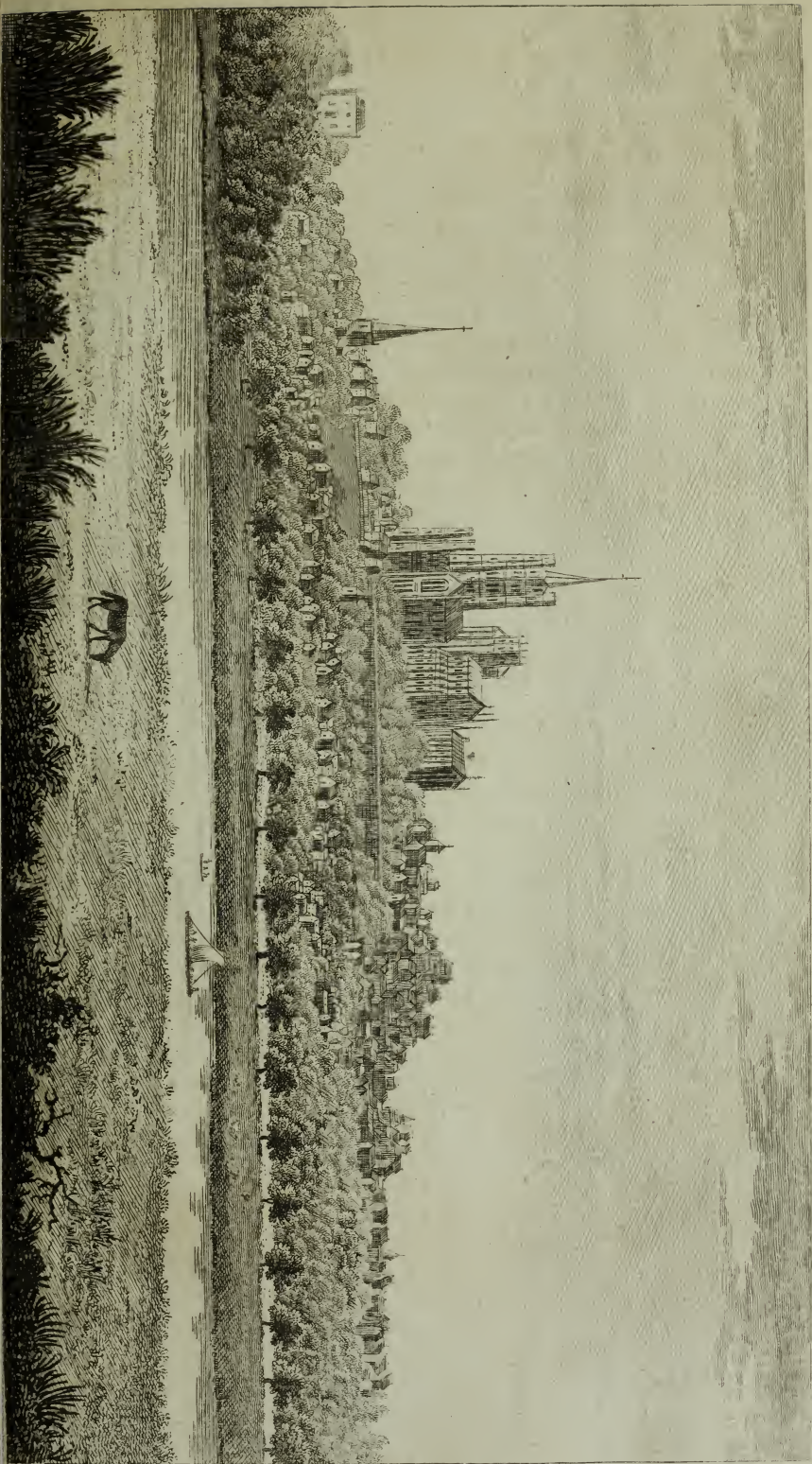
near Lynn in Norfolk. The tide runs with such violence up the Nen, as far as Wisbeach, about either equinox, that it will overset any boat in the way of it; and the salt waves dashing against each other, in the night time appear like streams of fire: this is generally called the Eager, from the impetuosity of its course. The little river Cam runs through the county, from south to north, and falls into the Ouse at Streatham-mere, near Thetford, by Ely.

The principal commodities of Cambridgeshire are corn, malt, cattle, butter, saffron, coleseed, hemp, fish, and wild-fowl. The wild-fowl are taken in decoys, placed convenient for catching them, into which they are led by tame ducks that are trained for that purpose; and in the Isle of Ely there is such plenty of these birds, that three thousand couple are said to be sent to London every week. The principal manufactures of this county are paper and wicker-ware. This county sends six members to the House of Commons, viz. two knights of the shire, two representatives for the University, and two burgeses for the town of Cambridge.

## C I T Y.

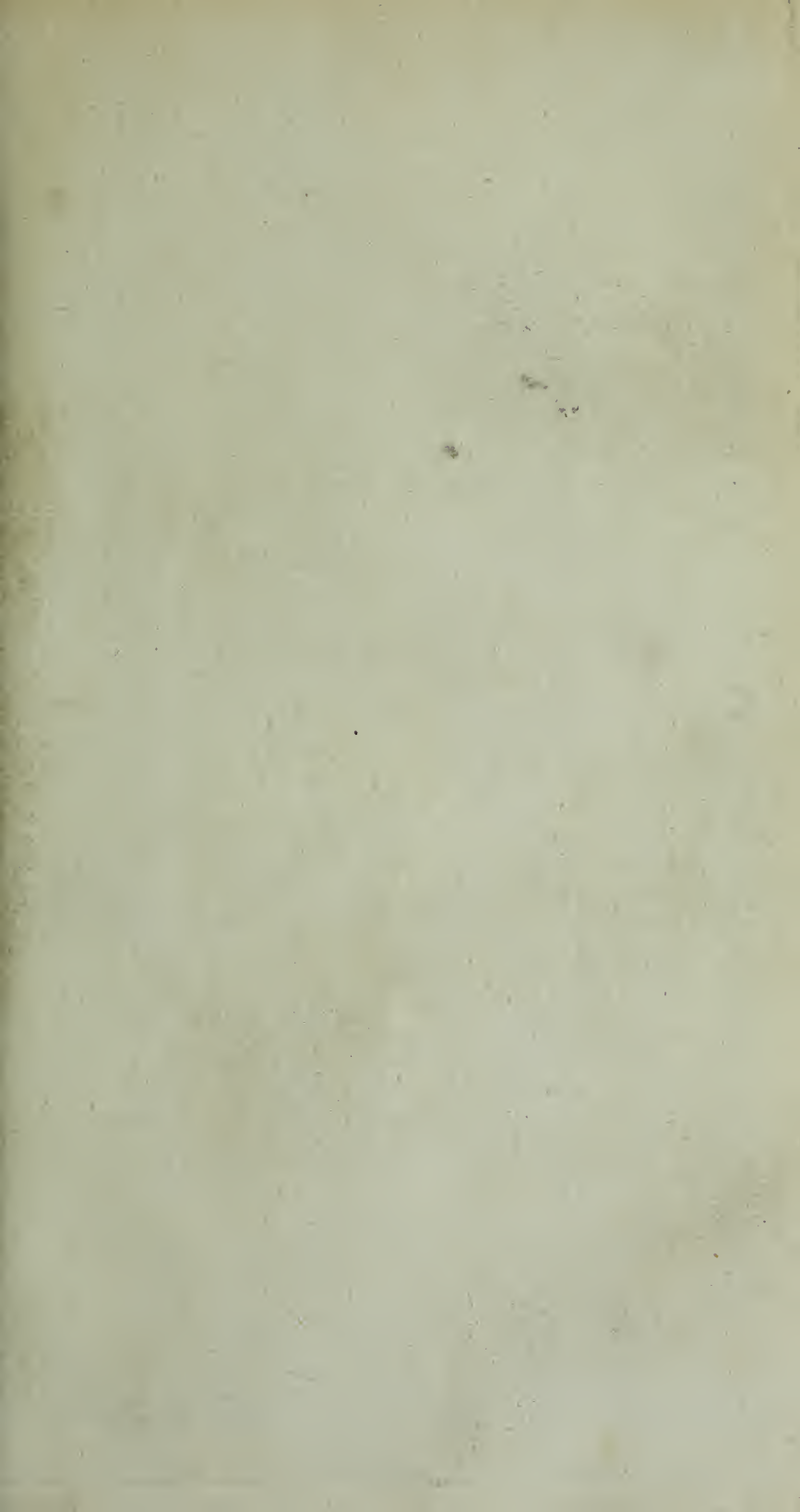
The ancient city of ELY is sixty-nine miles from London, situated in the fenny part of Cambridgeshire, called the Isle of Ely; and being surrounded by the Ouse and other streams, is unhealthy, though it stands on a rising ground. It is governed by the bishop, who has not only the ecclesiastical, but civil jurisdiction; and though a city, it is not represented in Parliament; two particulars in which it differs from every other city in the kingdom. The sovereignty of Ely was settled upon the bishop by Henry the First, who also made Cambridgeshire his diocese, which before was part of the diocese of Lincoln. From this time the bishop appointed a judge to determine all causes, whether civil or criminal, that should arise within his isle, till the time of Henry the Eighth, who took that privilege away; and therefore the bishop's power in civil affairs is now much curtailed.

The city of Ely is neither beautiful nor populous. The cathedral and bishop's palace are its chief ornaments; the former has a remarkable dome and lanthorn, supposed to be the only work of its kind in Europe, which seems to totter with

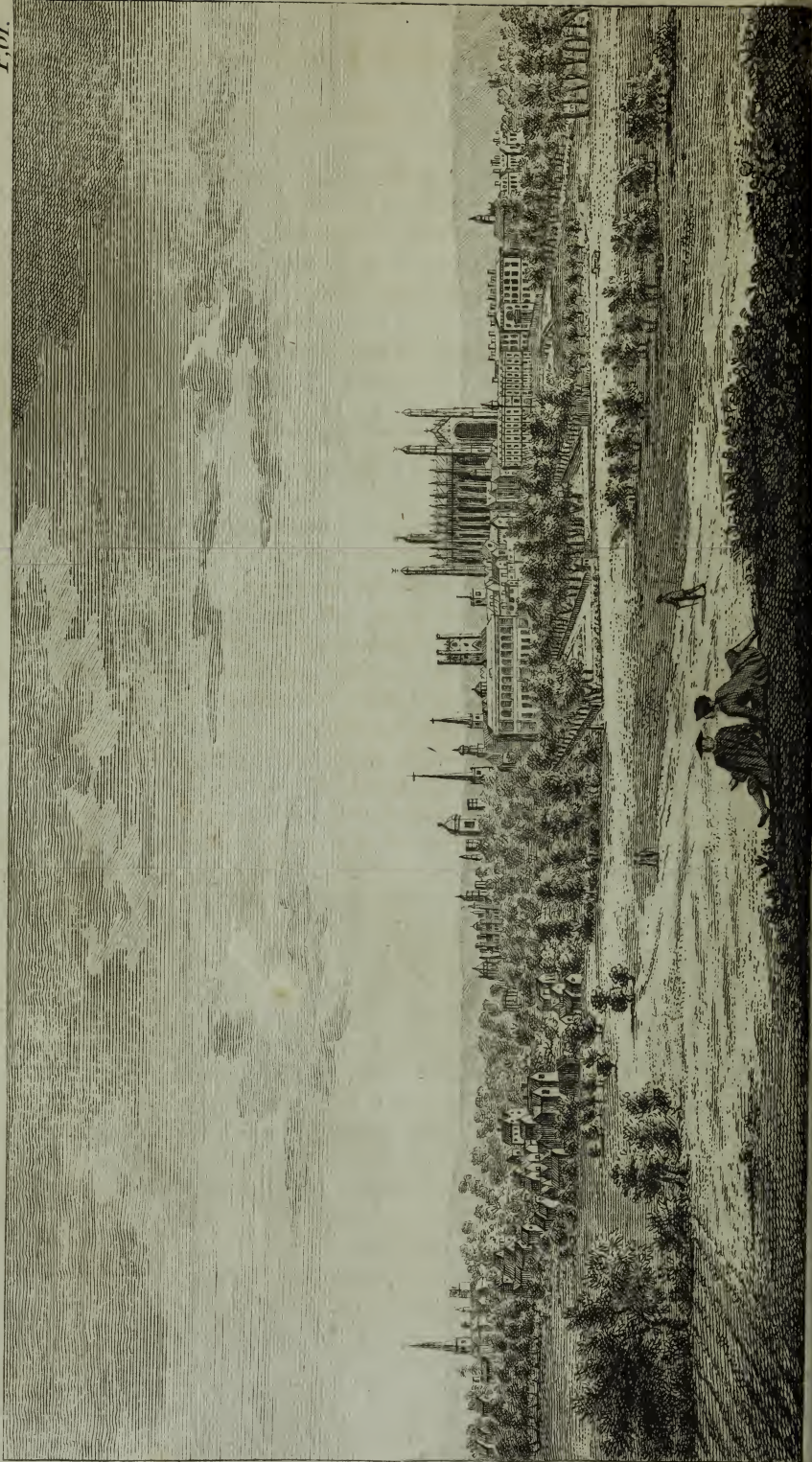












with every gust of wind. The church is four hundred feet high, has a tower at the west end of it, about two hundred feet high, and was a monastery in the time of the Saxons. The chief street, which is on the east side of the city, is full of springs, which generally overflow from one to another, all the way down the hill. This city is so encompassed with gardens, that all the country-towns in the neighbourhood, especially Cambridge and St. Ives, are supplied with garden stuff from hence. They are particularly noted for vast quantities of strawberries.

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### MARKET-TOWNS.

CAMBRIDGE is the county-town, and is situated on the river Cam, which divides the town into two parts, that are joined by a large stone bridge. It is fifty-two miles from London, and is a very ancient town, being well known in the time of the Romans by the name of *Camboritum*. William the Norman built a castle here, of which the gate-house is still standing, and used for the county gaol. There are fourteen parishes in this town, about twelve hundred houses, and the inhabitants are computed at six thousand. The government of the town is vested in a mayor, high-steward, recorder, twelve aldermen, twenty-four common-council-men, with a town-clerk, and other officers. The market-place is situated in the middle of the town; and the shire-hall, which was erected at the expence of the nobility and gentry of the county, is eighty feet in length, thirty-four in breadth, and thirty-three in height. The ancient town-hall is at the back of the shire-hall; and in the market-place is a pillar of the Ionic order, called the cross, on the top of which is a globe gilt. In the front of the town-hall stands an handsome stone conduit, inclosed with iron pallisades, to which water is brought by an aqueduct, which was first erected by the famous Hobson, the Cambridge carrier, whom Milton has celebrated in his poems, and who is said to have been the first person who ever let hackney horses in England. There has lately been erected here a large house, for a county hospital, on which four thousand pounds have been expended, pursuant to the will of Dr. Addenbroke, late fellow of Catherine Hall, who left it to the care of trustees.

Cambridge



Cambridge is about a mile in length, from south to north, and about half a mile broad in the middle. When the town is viewed from the west the prospect is exceedingly magnificent, as the colleges with their fine groves, gardens, and inclosures, all present themselves to the eye; and the situation on the banks of the river, which looks like an artificial canal, with the several bridges over it, all conspire to heighten the beauty of the scene.

The *University* here is one of the most flourishing seminaries of learning in the world, and is particularly distinguished for the great attention that is paid here to the cultivation of natural knowledge, together with all the different branches of the mathematics. It is governed by a chancellor, a high-steward, two proctors, and two taxors. All these officers are chosen by the University. The chancellor is always a peer of the realm, and generally continues in his office for life, by the tacit consent of the University, though a new choice may be made every three years. As the chancellor is a person of so high a rank, it is not expected or intended, that he should execute the office; but he has not the power of appointing his substitute: a vice-chancellor is chosen annually, on the third of November, by the University; he is always the head of some college, the heads of the colleges returning two of their body, of which the University elects one. The high-steward is chosen by the senate, and holds his place by a patent from the University. The proctors and taxors are also chosen every year from the several colleges and halls by turns. It is the business of the proctors to inspect into the behaviour of the students; and they, in conjunction with the taxors, regulate the weights and measures used in the markets. Here are also two moderators, two scrutators, a commissary, a public orator, two public librarians, a register, a school keeper, three esquire beadles, eighteen professors, with a yeoman beadle, who attends on all public occasions, and the caput, which consists of the vice-chancellor, a doctor of divinity, a doctor of laws, a doctor of physic, a regent, a non-regent, and a master of arts, chosen annually on the 12th of October.

The University consists of twelve colleges and four halls; but though they are distinguished by different names, the privileges of the colleges and halls are in every respect the same.—As to the antiquity of the University of Cambridge, we have no account of it generally allowed to be authentic, that

that goes further back than the reign of Henry the First, who succeeded William Rufus in August 1100. About this time the monastery of Croyland, in Lincolnshire, being consumed by fire, Geoffrey the abbot, who was possessed of the manor of Catenham, near Cambridge, sent thither Gislebert, his professor of divinity, and three other monks. These monks being well skilled in philosophy and the sciences, went daily to Cambridge, where they hired a barn, and read public lectures. A number of scholars were soon brought together, and in less than two years were so multiplied, that there was not a house, barn, or church in the place, large enough to hold them. Inns and halls were soon built for the accommodation of students. But many of the scholars used to board and lodge with the housekeepers in the town, and attended the lectures of the different professors, in the halls which were built for that purpose. And there is a hall now remaining, still called Pythagoras's-school, situated on the west side of the river, which was one of the first used for the before-mentioned purpose, and which is the only one now left undemolished. It was in this hall that Erasmus read his lectures on the Greek language. But we now proceed to give an account of the several colleges and halls in their present state.

*Peter House College* was founded in 1257, in the reign of King Henry the Third, by Hugh Balsham, prior of Ely; at which time it was nothing more than commodious lodgings for the students. But in 1284, when the founder was made bishop of that see, he endowed it for a master and fourteen fellows. The name of the college is derived from St. Peter's church, in the neighbourhood of which it is situated.

This college consists of two courts, separated by a cloister and gallery, the largest being one hundred and forty-four feet long, and eighty-four feet broad. All the buildings in this court have been within these few years cased with stone in an elegant manner, so that at present they make a very handsome appearance. The lesser court is situated next the street, and is divided by the chapel, a fine Gothic building, forty-four feet long, twenty-seven broad, and twenty-seven high. This college has a master, twenty-two fellows, and forty-two scholars.

*Clare Hall*



*Clare Hall* was founded in the year 1340, at which time Richard Badew, the chancellor, being assisted by the generous benefactions of Lady Elizabeth Clare, then Countess of Ulster, not only built, but endowed it on the ruins of a house which he had built sixteen years before, for the reception of such students as were willing to live there at their own expence ; but at last, by some accident, it was destroyed by fire. In process of time, by the assistance of some additional benefactions, the endowment was greatly enlarged. It has been nobly rebuilt, and is finely situated on the eastern bank of the river, over which it has an elegant stone bridge, leading to a fine vista, beyond which is a beautiful lawn. This delightful spot is much resorted to on summer evenings, where, on the one hand, are elegant buildings, gardens, groves, and the river; and, on the other, corn-fields to a very great extent. Clare Hall has a master, eighteen fellows, and sixty-three scholars.

*Pembroke Hall* was founded in the year 1347, by Mary St. Paul, Countess of Pembroke, whose husband, Audomare de Valentia, Earl of Pembroke, lost his life in a tournament on the very day he was married to her. Upon this misfortune, being inconsolable for his death, she instantly withdrew from the world ; and, amongst other acts of munificence, she established this hall. It consists of two courts, each being ninety-six feet long, and fifty-four broad. The chapel was built after a design of Sir Christopher Wren, and is esteemed an elegant edifice. This hall has a master, five fellows, and thirteen scholars.

*Corpus Christi*, or *Benedict College*, is a long square of buildings, containing two courts, and four rows of lodgings. It was founded by the united guilds, or fraternities of Corpus Christi, and the Blessed Virgin, who through the interest of Henry of Monmouth, Duke of Lancaster, procured leave of Henry the Third, that their aldermen should be authorized to erect and endow this college. It takes its name from the church of St. Benedict, that stands contiguous to it. The chapel of the college, and the library, are both under the same roof. The latter contains a valuable collection of ancient manuscripts, which were preserved at the dissolution of the religious houses, and given to this society by Archbishop Parker. This college maintains a master, twelve fellows, and forty scholars.

*Trinity Hall*









*Trinity Hall* was founded in the year 1353, by William Bateman, Bishop of Norwich. It is an handsome edifice, having been lately faced with stone, both within and without. The chapel is small, but very neat, and the gardens are extremely pleasant. This hall was originally designed for the study of the civil law, and consists of a master, twelve fellows, and fourteen scholars.

*Gonville and Caius College* consists of three courts, with three remarkable gates, one of which is called the gate of virtue, and esteemed a fine piece of architecture. The first foundation of this society, though not on the same spot, was begun in the year 1348, by Edmund de Gonville, rector of Ferrington, in Norfolk: but as he died before his design was accomplished, he left a sum of money to Bateman, Bishop of Norwich, for the completion of it. However, the learned Dr. John Caius, an eminent physician, made such large additions to it afterwards, not only in regard to its buildings, but its revenues, that he is justly considered as its principal founder.

Dr. Caius was successively physician to King Edward the Sixth, Queen Mary the First, and Queen Elizabeth; and was a great friend to the College of Physicians, of which for seven years he held the office of president. He added at his own expence to Gonville-hall a new square, called Caius's Court, all of durable free-stone, and uniform in every respect; the charge of which amounted to one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four pounds, which at that time was a large sum. He also endowed his foundation with considerable estates, for the maintenance of three fellows, twenty scholars, and a porter, and gave them a new body of statutes. And that this society might the better flourish under his immediate care and inspection, he accepted himself of the mastership of it, in 1559, and retained it almost as long as he lived. But some little time before his decease, he caused Dr. Thomas Legge of Norwich to be placed in his room, he remaining as a fellow commoner in his own college, assisting daily at divine service, in a private seat in the chapel, which he had built for himself. He died in 1573, and was buried in a grave which he had made before his decease, in the chapel of his own college. His monument, when the chapel was rebuilt some years since, was raised from the floor, and placed in the wall, and then his body was found whole and perfect. This col-



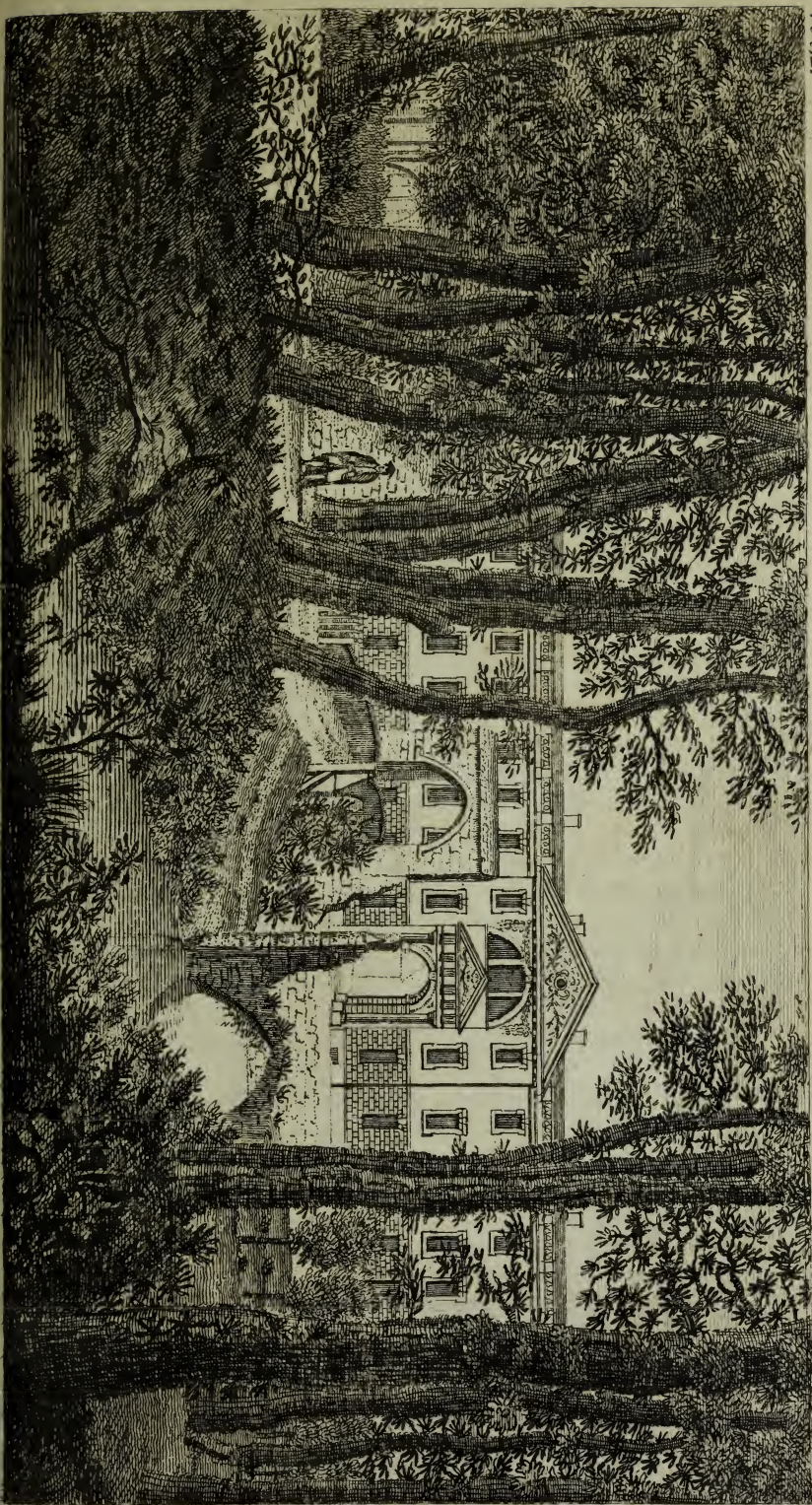
lege maintains at present twenty-six fellows, and seventy-four scholars.

*King's College* is on many accounts deemed the most magnificent college in Europe. The chapel is one of the finest pieces of Gothic architecture in the world, three hundred and four feet long, seventy-three broad, and ninety-one in height to the battlements, and yet not a single pillar to sustain the roofs, of which there are two; the first of stone finely wrought, the other of timber covered with lead, between which a man may walk upright. It is adorned with twenty-six beautiful pinnacles, of which the four principal ones are one hundred and fifty feet high, and are seen at twenty miles distance. The carving is inimitably fine; and the windows of the chapel are ornamented with painted glass. This college owes its first foundation to King Henry the Sixth, in the year 1441, but it was afterwards enlarged by King Henry the Seventh, and King Henry the Eighth. It maintains a provost, fifty fellows, and twenty scholars.

*Queen's College*, was first founded by Margaret, consort of King Henry the Sixth, but was finished by Elizabeth, Queen to King Edward the Fourth. It contains two courts, besides other buildings. The first court is ninety-six feet long, and eighty-four broad, and the second is three hundred and thirty feet in circumference. The chapel is a fine piece of Gothic architecture; but the greatest beauties of this college are its gardens and rural groves, which are laid out in the most curious manner along both sides of the river, and connected with the college and each other by two wooden bridges, one of which is considered as extremely curious. When Erasmus was at Cambridge, he chose this college as his place of residence. Here is a president, nineteen fellows, and forty-four scholars.

*Catherine Hall* was founded by Richard Woodlark, the provost of King's College, in the year 1475, and was dedicated to St. Catherine. It is situated on the east of Queen's College. The front is towards the west, and is one of the most regular and extensive in this University. It has lately had several considerable improvements and additions, particularly that part which fronts the east, where there is a noble quadrangle of one hundred and eighty feet long, and one hundred and twenty feet broad. In the middle is a grass plat, and the entrance from the east is by an handsome pair of iron gates.









gates. Great art has been used to make the walks and avenues of this college as agreeable as possible; for which purpose a row of young elms have been planted within these few years opposite Trumpington-street, and a new brick wall erected, which adds greatly to the beauty of the place. The chapel here is reckoned a fine piece of architecture. This hall maintains a master, six fellows, and thirty scholars.

*Jesus College* is situated in the most beautiful manner on the east end of the town, and surrounded by gardens, groves, and fine meadows. The south front is one hundred and eighty feet long, built in the most regular manner, and in a good taste. The entrance is by a most magnificent gate, and the first court is one hundred and forty-one feet long, and one hundred and twenty broad. It was founded by John Alcock, Bishop of Ely, in the year 1497, who, after he had obtained the lands and revenues of a monastery of nuns, who had been suppressed on account of the licentiousness of their manners, he endowed and dedicated it to Jesus, the Blessed Virgin, and to St. Radegund, who was the patroness of the nunnery. This college maintains a master, sixteen fellows, and thirty-one scholars.

*Christ's College* was founded by the Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, and mother of King Henry the Seventh. It is situated on the east side of the town, and has one court of about one hundred and thirty feet long, and one hundred and twenty broad. The master's apartments are in the north-east corner, and near them is the chapel. The hall is on the west side of the court, and two of the others have been lately faced with stone. A stone building has also been erected within these few years, one hundred and fifty feet long, from whence there is an extensive prospect of the adjacent country. Behind this place is a garden appropriated for the use of the fellows, reckoned one of the pleasantest in the University, and beyond it is the cold bath surrounded by a little wilderness. This college maintains a master, fifteen fellows, and fifty scholars.

*St. John's College* was also founded by the Countess of Richmond, about nineteen years after the establishment of the preceding college, and was completed by her executors, Richard Fox, Bishop of Winchester, and John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester. It consists of three courts; to the first of which we enter by a magnificent gate, adorned with four high



towers, built in the Gothic taste. The chapel is on the right hand, being one hundred and twenty feet long, and twenty-seven broad. Divine service is performed here in the same manner as in cathedrals. The court of this college is extremely spacious, being two hundred and twenty-eight feet long, and two hundred and sixteen broad. The hall is opposite the gate, and the second court is for the most part taken up with the lodgings of the fellows. On the north is a fine gallery, adjoining to the master's lodge; and the whole court, which has a very magnificent appearance, is about two hundred and seventy feet in length, and two hundred and forty in breadth; and from it is an entrance to the third court, which, although the least, is the pleasanter of the three, being situated close to the river, and having the walks and groves on the opposite side in full view. There is a commodious cloister on the west, wherein are several handsome apartments, and on the north is the college library, which is a noble room, and is well furnished with many scarce and valuable books. There is a fine stone bridge of three arches belonging to this college, which leads to a grand walk of elms, on the other side of the river; and near it are fine meadows, cultivated with the greatest care, and laid out with all the profusion of the most luxuriant fancy. There is a garden for the fellows at the west end, not walled in, but sufficiently secured by a thickset hedge, and a deep ditch, which render it extremely pleasant, as the walks afford a fine prospect of an extensive champaign country on one side, and on the other the walks belonging to Trinity College. Here is likewise a beautiful summer-house, with a bowling-green. This college maintains a master, fifty-four fellows, and an hundred scholars.

*Magdalen College* stands on that side of the Cam which is opposite to all the rest. It was originally no more than an hall for monks to prepare themselves for academical exercises; but at the dissolution of the monasteries, Thomas Lord Audley, High Chancellor of England, founded this college here. It consists of two courts, the largest of which has the chapel and master's apartments on the north, and the hall on the east. The second court is extremely neat, and stands at a distance from the noise of the town. It has on the east an elegant stone building, with a cloister in the front. Over the apartments of the fellows is a fine new library, furnished with a very valuable collection of manuscripts, which were given  
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to this college by the ingenious Mr. Samuel Pepys, who was secretary to the Admiralty in the reigns of Charles the Second and James the Second. The chapel of this college is extremely neat, and the workmanship of the altar-piece is much admired. Here is a master, thirteen fellows, and thirty scholars.

*Trinity College* was founded by King Henry the Eighth, but large additions were afterwards made to it by Queen Mary, and several subsequent benefactors. It is a very grand structure, containing two spacious quadrangles; the first of which is much the largest, being three hundred and forty-four feet in length on the west side, and three hundred and twenty-five feet on the east, two hundred and eighty feet broad on the south side, and two hundred and fifty-six on the north. The entrance from the street is by a grand gate, over which is a curious observatory. The entrance from the south is by a gate adorned with towers, and called Queen's Gate; and opposite to it, on the north, is another gate similar to it, with a noble clock, and near it is the chapel, which is an exceeding neat structure. It is two hundred and four feet long, thirty-three feet eight inches broad, and forty-three feet seven inches high. A beautiful simplicity reigns throughout this building: it is adorned with a grand altar-piece, stalls, and a noble organ gallery. Public worship is performed here in the same manner as in cathedrals. In the anti-chamber is a very fine statue of Sir Isaac Newton, which was executed by Roubilliac, and is one of the finest performances of that great master. The master's lodge is near the chapel, and in it are apartments for the reception of the King, and such of the Royal Family as chuse to visit the University. These apartments are likewise appropriated for the reception of the Judges when they come here on the circuit.

The hall is at the south end of the master's lodge, and is one hundred feet long, and forty broad. The height is fifty feet, and the walls are adorned with the portraits of many eminent persons, who have either had their education in this college, or been benefactors to it. There is an entrance through the end of the hall to Nevils, or the inner court, by a grand flight of steps. This court is the finest in this University, and even surpasses any at Oxford. It is very spacious, and has a noble cloister both on the north and south,  
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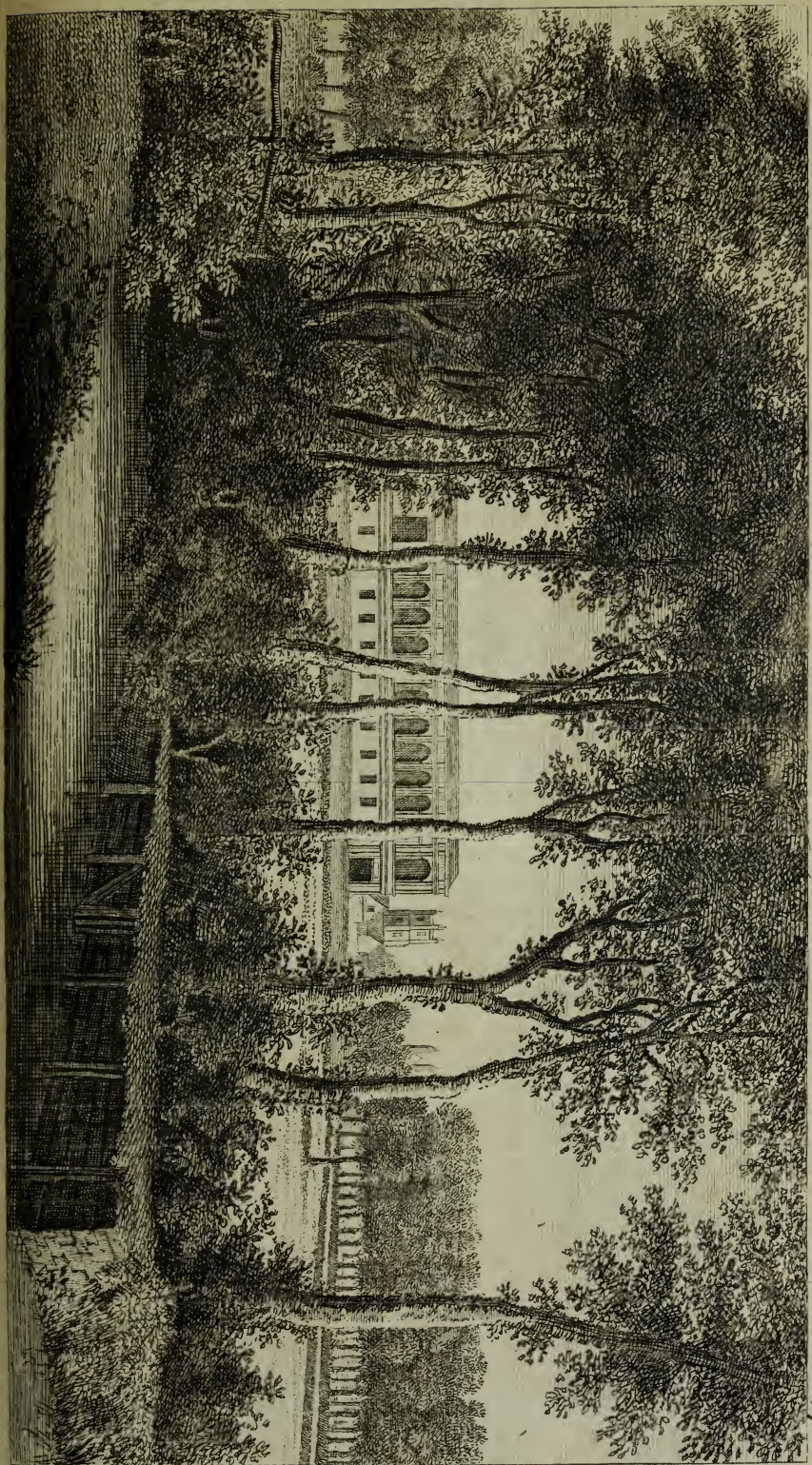


and well supported by stone pillars, and over them are handsome apartments for the fellows and gentlemen commoners. The library constitutes the west front of the college, and is a very magnificent structure. It is one hundred and ninety feet long, forty broad, and thirty-eight high. The erecting of this library was much promoted by the learned Dr. Barrow, who was master of this college when the edifice was begun. The ascent to it is by a spacious stair-case, with steps of black marble, and in different apartments are many ancient Roman monuments. The entrance into the library is by folding doors at the north end, and the appearance of the inside is extremely grand and beautiful. The classes are very large, and contain a very valuable collection of books, manuscripts, and other curiosities. The tops of the classes are adorned with busts of the most celebrated writers, both ancient and modern. There are also some fine portraits, and a fine marble statue of the late Duke of Somerset. The floor of the library is of white marble, and at the south end are folding doors, which open into a balcony. The outside of the walls is ornamented with pilasters, and chapiters finely carved, and round the top is a stone balustrade. Over the east front are four statues, representing divinity, law, physic, and the mathematics. Sir Christopher Wren was the architect of this elegant building. Under the library is a most spacious piazza, and from it are three large gates of wrought iron, which open to a lawn surrounded with fine gravel walks, and there is a passage to the river, over which is a bridge of three arches. On the opposite side of the river are walks of about one-third of a mile in circumference, from whence there is an extensive prospect over a fine open country. In the middle is a remarkable fine vista, through a high walk of lofty elms, and on the north and south are rows of Dutch elms and chefnut trees. This noble college maintains a master, sixty-five fellows, and ninety-one scholars.

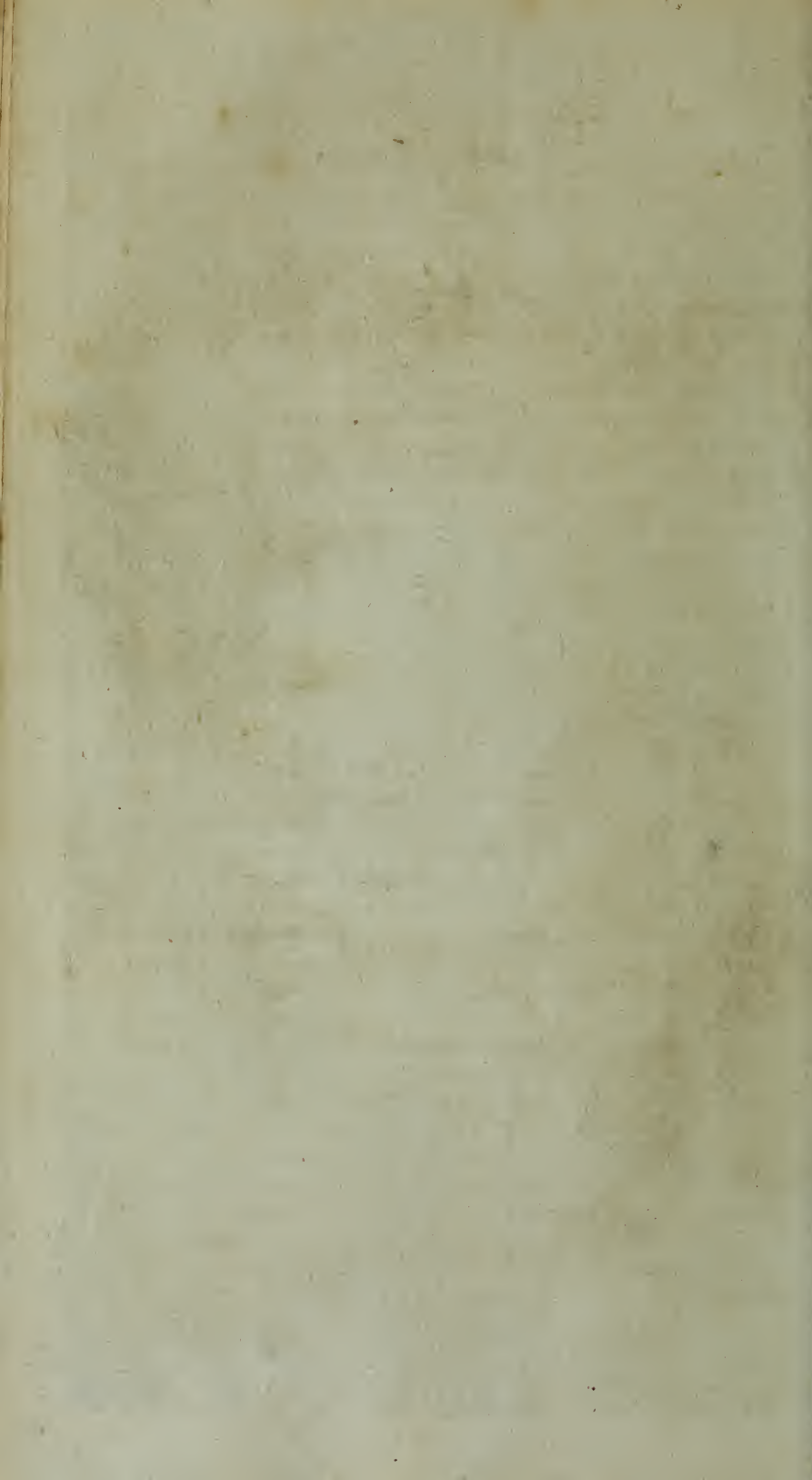
*Emanuel College* was founded in the year 1584, by Sir Walter Mildmay, of Chelmsford in Essex, on the same spot on which there had formerly been a house of Dominican friars. The grand court of this college is extremely neat, having an elegant stone building on the south, and opposite on the north side is the hall. Near it is the master's lodge; and on the east is a fine gallery, over the cloister, adorned with portraits of the founder and other benefactors. The entrance

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to the chapel is in the middle of the cloister, and contrived in such a manner that the students can pass to it out of their chambers. The chapel, which is extremely neat, is adorned with a fretwork cieling, and has a marble floor. From the cloister to the south is a noble range of buildings, besides which there are some lesser courts with old buildings and a very good library. Here is a master, fourteen fellows, and sixty scholars.

*Sidney Sussex College* was founded in 1589, by Lady Frances Sidney, Countess of Sussex. It consists of two courts, almost encompassed with gardens. The hall is extremely elegant, and the library contains many scarce and valuable books. This college maintains a master, twelve fellows, and twenty-eight scholars.

*The Senate House* at Cambridge is a most elegant building, executed entirely in the Corinthian order, being one hundred and one feet long, forty-two feet broad, and thirty-two feet high. The wainscot and galleries which surround it, are of Norway oak, of a cedar colour, and finely carved. The gallery at the east end is supported by five fluted columns; and the cieling is ornamented with stucco work. Opposite the south entrance is a statue of King George the Second, and on the other side is a statue of the late Duke of Somerset. Near this is a fine emblematical figure of glory, which was executed in Italy. At the west end are the thrones of the chancellor and vice-chancellor, and the seats for the heads of the colleges, noblemen, and doctors, are on one side, in the form of a semi-circle. The regents in white hoods, and the non-regents in black hoods, sit below them; and at the upper end, on the right hand of the chancellor's throne, is a room where the doctors dress themselves in their robes. At the east end are two stair-cases leading to the gallery, which will contain at least a thousand persons. This is generally allowed to be one of the most elegant edifices in England, and is said to have cost about sixteen thousand pounds. It forms the north side of an intended square, as the schools and public libraries do the west, the schools being on the ground floor, and the library over them, surrounding a small court, where the divinity and philosophy schools are kept; and on the south are those for law and physic. The late learned Dr. Woodward's repository of fossils, ores, shells, &c. which is well worthy the notice of the curious, is an elegant geometrical



metrical stair-case, which leads to the old library over the law schools. At the south-west angle is an elegant square room, enlightened by an handsome cupola, with brass doors, for the reception of manuscripts and the most valuable books; and here is likewise a cabinet, containing a great number of oriental manuscripts, with many other curiosities. In the next room is an Egyptian mummy; and in two other rooms are deposited a great number of curious prints, together with a valuable collection of medals, and the first editions of the Greek and Latin classics; and also a collection of most of the books printed by Caxton. Here is likewise a famous Greek manuscript of the Gospels, and Acts of the Apostles, which belonged to Theodore Beza, and was presented by him to this University. It is written in capitals on fine vellum, and is of great antiquity. The room in which this is deposited, which is on the west side, over the philosophy school, together with another over the divinity school, on the north-side, contains twenty-six large classes, in which are thirty thousand volumes of printed books, presented to this University by King George the First. The east gallery has been lately built in an elegant manner, and forms the west side of the intended square; but it is of a different order of architecture from the Senate House, to which it is joined by a stone screen, the whole making a very handsome appearance.

St. Mary's church forms the east side of the intended square, and in this the University have their public sermons. Over part of the middle chancel is a grand gallery, wherein the vice-chancellors, heads of colleges, noblemen, and doctors sit; and in the middle isle are seats for the masters of arts, and fellow-commoners. In the side isles are handsome seats for the batchelors, and the parishioners sit near them. The organ at the west end is extremely magnificent; and it has a gallery wherein all the acts of music are held. The length of the church is seventy-five feet, and the chancel forty-five, the whole breadth being sixty-eight. This noble fabric was built by the voluntary contributions of such persons as had received their education in this University. The steeple is lofty and handsome; and this church is greatly superior to any other in the city of Cambridge.

The whole number of fellows in this celebrated University, are four hundred, and six hundred and sixty-six scholars,

lars, with about two hundred and thirty-six officers and servants of various kinds, who are maintained upon the foundation. These, however, are not all the students of the University; there are two sorts of students, called pensioners, the greater and the less; the greater pensioners are sons of the nobility and of gentlemen of large fortunes, and are called fellow-commoners, because, though they are scholars, they dine with the fellows; the lesser pensioners dine with the scholars that are on the foundation, but live at their own expence. There is also a considerable number of poor scholars, called sizars, who wait upon the fellows and scholars, and the pensioners of both ranks, by whom they are in a great degree maintained; but the number of pensioners and sizars cannot be ascertained, as it is in a state of perpetual fluctuation.

In this University the batchelors of arts complete their degrees in Lent, beginning at Ash-Wednesday. The first Tuesday in July is always the day of commencement, wherein the masters of arts and the doctors of all faculties complete their respective degrees. In three years after any one has taken his batchelor's degree, he may commence master of arts; and seven years after that, he may be dignified with the title of batchelor of divinity, and at the expiration of three years more, he may turn out doctor.

NEWMARKET, notwithstanding its name, is of considerable antiquity; for in the time of King Edward the Third the Bishop of Carlisle, who was afterwards so troublesome to King Henry the Fourth, was called Thomas of Newmarket. It is sixty miles distant from London, and chiefly consists of one street, which is long and well built. The south-side of it only is in Cambridgeshire, the north side being in the county of Suffolk. The air of this place is very healthy; and the heath which surrounds the town is famous for being the finest course in England, where there are horse races in April and October every year. There are two churches in Newmarket; one on the Cambridge side, which is a chapel of ease to Ditton, a neighbouring parish, and one on the Suffolk side, which is parochial. There is a royal palace on the heath, which was built by King Charles the Second, and there are also several seats near the heath, belonging to persons of distinction. There are here several very wide, steep,



and long ditches, which were cut by the East Angles to keep out the Mercians, one of which being a stupendous work, much superior to the rest, has obtained the name of the Devil's Ditch; the common people supposing it to be more adequate to the power of spirits than of men. It runs many miles over the heath.

ROYSTON, which is thirty-seven miles from London, is a populous and well built town, and stands in a good air on a chalky soil. Part of it is situated in Cambridgeshire, and part on the utmost northern border of Hertfordshire. The town stands where two roads meet, both made by the Romans, the one called Herman-street, and the other Icening-street. This place is much frequented on account of its good market for grain, and of being one of the roads to Cambridge, to and from which many persons are constantly travelling. The inns are large, and contain good accommodations for persons of all ranks. Royston church formerly belonged to a convent, and contains some curious monuments. It was made parochial soon after the dissolution of monasteries; and five parishes being then reduced into one, the rectory is of great value, and the incumbent is lord of the manor. Many Roman coins have been found here at different times, and a few years ago, as some labourers were digging near the market-place, they discovered the remains of a curious subterranean chapel, with several altars and images cut out of chalk.

WISBEACH is eighty-nine miles from London, and is situated among the fens and rivers in the isle of Ely. It is a well built and populous town, and has a good public hall, and an episcopal palace belonging to the bishop of Ely. It has a navigation by barges to London, which has made it a place of considerable trade. Its principal commodity is oats, of which it is computed that more than fifty-two thousand quarters are annually sent up to the metropolis, besides one thousand tons of oil, and eight thousand firkins of butter.

MARSH, which is eighty miles from London, is but a mean and inconsiderable town. In 1730, when the road was making from hence to Wisbeach, two urns were found, in one of which were bones and ashes, and in the other about three

three hundred pieces of silver coin, no two pieces alike; but which, it is said, by their dates appeared to be two thousand years old.

CAXTON is a small town, forty-nine miles from London. A Roman way goes through this place. Caxton, the first English printer, was born here, as was also Matthew Paris, the historian. This is an inconsiderable town, though (as it is on the post road between Royston and Huntingdon) it contains some good inns.

SOHAM, which is seventy-one miles from London, is a little town on the east side the river Cam, and near a fen which lies in the road to Ely, and was once extremely dangerous to pass, but a good causeway is now made through it. This place is remarkable for the ruins of a church built by the Danes.

LINTON is now an obscure town, forty-eight miles from London, though it was formerly a place of considerable repute. Near this place a Roman military way joins the Icenings.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

The Earl of Hardwicke has a fine seat at *Wimple*, in this county; as has also Mr Soame Jenyns at *Bottissham Hall*, near Cambridge; Sir John Hynde Cotton at *Madingley*; and Mr. Bennet at *Barberham*, an ancient seat built by Signior Pallavicini, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

At a little distance from Cambridge is the village of *Stourbridge*, which is situated on a brook called the Stour, and is celebrated for one of the greatest fairs in England being held in its neighbourhood. It begins on the 18th of September, and continues a fortnight; and there is such a vast concourse of dealers here, from almost every part of the kingdom, that wooden booths are built for their accommodation, which are divided into streets and lanes, in the same manner as an inhabited town, and named after so many streets in London. They have not only shops during the fair for the sale of al-



most every sort of goods, but also alehouses, taverns, and eating-houses, with shews and exhibitions of various kinds. A very great trade is carried on here, by buying and selling different sorts of goods upon the spot; and also, by very large commissions, which are here transacted for other parts of England. In this fair the clothiers from Devonshire and Somersetshire meet with those from Leeds and Halifax in Yorkshire, while the wholesale dealers from London come to settle with the country manufacturers, and give them orders for fresh quantities of goods. During the whole time in which this fair continues, it resembles a populous trading town, or rather a city; and in order to prevent disorders, there is a court held in a booth, erected for the purpose, where justice is administered by one of the magistrates from Cambridge. About the middle of the fair, when the hurry of the wholesale business is over, the gentry from the neighbourhood come from motives of curiosity, but they lay out large sums in the purchase of such articles as they have occasion for. There is also a fair for horses, which is resorted to by dealers from all parts. It is said that this famous fair derives its origin from a clothier of Kendal, who accidentally exposed his cloth to sale at this place, which had been intended for the London market; upon which others, encouraged by his success, met here annually for the same purpose, and so established in process of time this great and universal market.

At *Thorney*, near Wisbeach, was a very considerable monastery, founded in the reign of King Edgar. The greatest part of the church is still standing, and from its majestic appearance, some idea may be formed of the ancient grandeur of Thorney Abbey.

At *Spinney*, near Soham, was an abbey founded about the reign of King Henry the Third, near which was a church, founded by Lady Mary Bassingburne, and given to the abbey of Spinney, upon condition that the monks should support seven poor aged men, with the following allowance, viz. one farthing loaf, one herring, and one pennyworth of ale per day; and two hundred dry turves, one pair of shoes, one woollen garment, and three ells of linen every year. Henry Cromwell, second son of Oliver Cromwell, lies buried in this church.

Near



Chorwerk Abbey in Cumberland, Penn.





Near the southern extremity of this county, and not far from Linton, is a village called *Castle Camps*, where there are still the remains of a most magnificent castle, built by one of the Vere's, Earl of Oxford in the reign of King Henry the First. The tower, and great part of the walls are still standing, and from its appearance at this distance of time, it must have been a very magnificent edifice. The whole of the manor was purchased by Mr. Sutton, for the use of his hospital, called the Charter-House, in London.

At *Swavesey* are some small ruins of a Benedictine convent, which belonged to the priory of St. Anne's, near Coventry.

*Audre*, or as it was formerly called *Eriith*, on the north side of the Ouse, in the isle of Ely, though only a village, is larger and more populous than some market-towns.— There is a piece of antiquity near this place, called *Belsar's Hill*; which is an artificial mount, that is generally supposed to be the place to which the people who had taken up arms against William the Norman fled for safety, after he had defeated Harold at the battle of Hastings. At that time it was surrounded by marshes and bogs. In the reign of King Henry the Third, such of the barons as were defeated and outlawed, sought refuge at this place, from whence they sallied forth in great numbers, and infested the adjacent country.

At *Arbury*, or *Arbborough*, about a mile north of Cambridge, there are the remains of a Roman camp, in a figure inclining to a square, and of very considerable extent. In this camp there have been found many Roman coins.

Over against *Arbborough*, to the south-east of Cambridge, and at a small distance from it, are certain high hills known by the name of *Gog Magog Hills*. On the top of these hills there is an entrenchment, of a rude circular figure, which is two hundred and forty-six paces in diameter: it is fortified with three rampires, having two ditches between them, as the manner formerly was; and it is supposed that if it could have been supplied with water, it would have been impregnable. Some have imagined this camp to be Roman,



as the Romans did not always reject a circular figure when the situation made it more convenient than another. Others think it was a summer retreat of the Danes, who are known to have committed great barbarities in this country. And some are of opinion that the work is British, and was thrown up to check the Romans, who were encamped at Arborough, over against it. Gervase of Tilbury, an historian of the thirteenth century, thinks it was a camp of the Vandals, when they destroyed the Christians and desolated great part of the country: he therefore gave it the name of *Vandelbiria*, which has since been corrupted into *Wandlebury*.—Near this camp, from the brow of the hill southward, there runs a Roman way; and in the year 1685, many Roman coins were found in an adjacent spot.

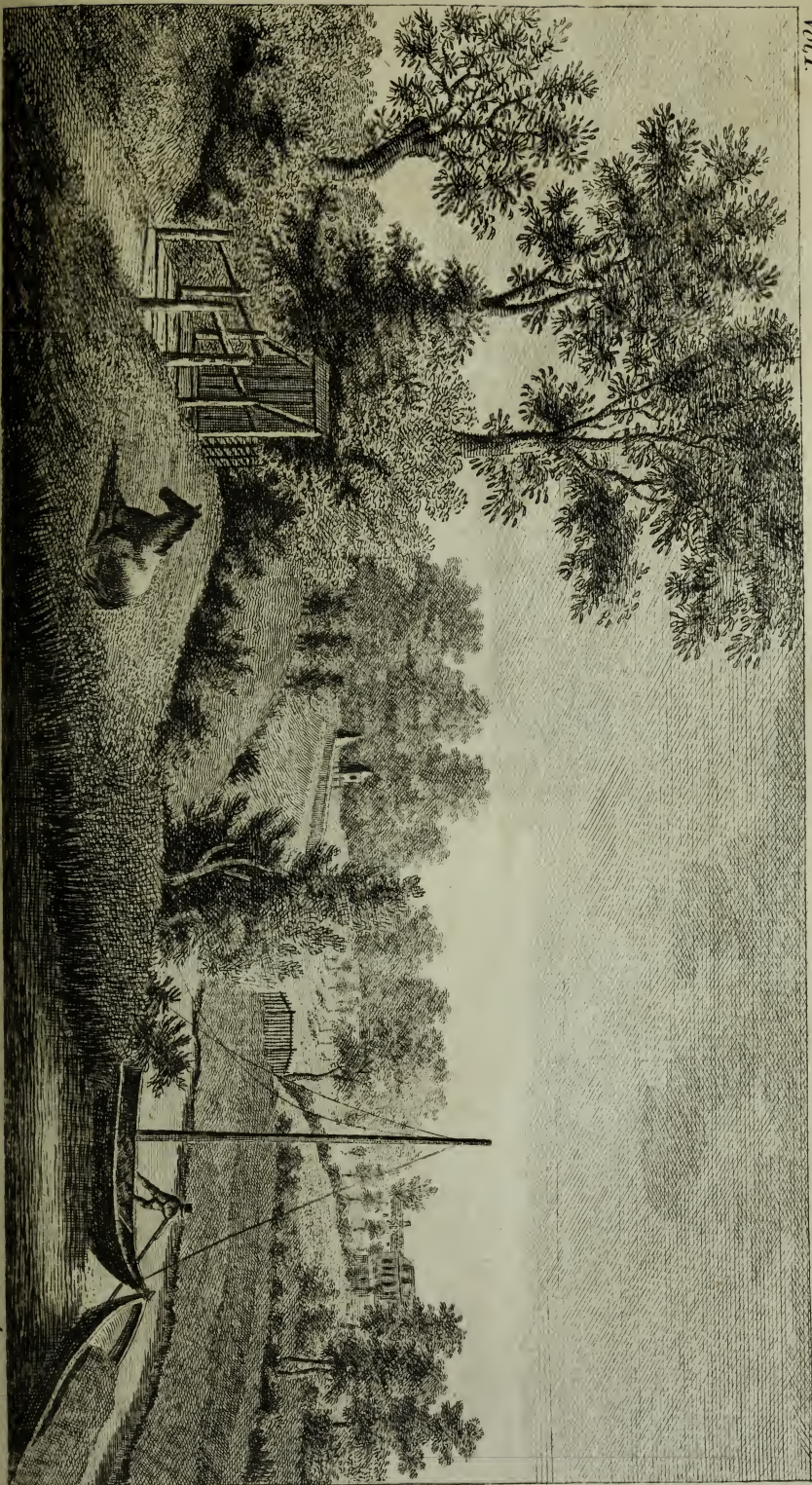
At *Trumpington*, distant about one mile from Cambridge, there is a place called *Dam Hill*, where great numbers of human bones have been found, and many urns, pateras, and other Roman antiquities.

*Barnwell* is a pleasant village near Cambridge, where there was formerly an abbey, founded by Pain Peverell, a famous soldier, who was standard-bearer to Robert Duke of Normandy, in the holy wars.

*Chesterton* is another agreeable village near Cambridge, where was formerly a seat of the Bevil family.

















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## C H E S H I R E.

**T**HIS county is bounded on the north by Lancashire, on the east and south-east by Derbyshire and Staffordshire, on the south by Shropshire and part of Flintshire, and on the west and north-west by Denbighshire and the Irish sea, into which the north-west corner shoots out, and forms a peninsula near sixteen miles long, and seven broad, called Wiral. The sea breaking on each side of this peninsula, forms two creeks, one between the north-east side of the peninsula and the south-west coast of Lancashire; the other between the south-west coast of it, and the north-east coast of Flintshire: these two creeks receive all the rivers of the county. The whole county is about forty-five miles long, and twenty-five broad, in its greatest extent.

The air of this county is serene and healthful, but proportionably colder than the more southern parts of the island. The country is in general flat and open, though it rises into hills on the borders of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, and contains several forests, two of which, called Delamere and Macclesfield, are of considerable extent. The soil in many parts is naturally fertile; and its fertility is greatly increased by a kind of marle, or fat clay, of two sorts, one white and the other red, which the peasants find in great abundance, and spread upon their land as manure: corn and grass is thus produced with the most plentiful increase; and the pasture is said to be the sweetest of any in the kingdom. There are however large tracts of land covered with heath and moss, which the inhabitants can use only for fuel. The mossy tracts consist of a kind of moorish boggy earth. The inhabitants call them *mosses*, and distinguish them into white, grey, and black, from the colour of the moss that grows upon them. The white mosses, or bogs, are evidently compages of the leaves, seeds, flowers, stalks, and roots of herbs, plants or shrubs. The grey consists of the same substances in a higher degree of putrefaction; and the only difference of the black is, that in this the putrefaction is perfect; the  
grey



grey is harder, and more ponderous than the white; and the black is closer and more bituminous than either. From these mosses, square pieces, like bricks, are dug out, and laid in the sun to dry for fuel, and are called turfs.

The chief commodities of this county are cheese, salt, and mill-stones. The cheese is esteemed the best in England, and furnished in great plenty by the excellent pasturage on which the cattle are fed. The salt is produced not from the water of the sea, but from salt springs, which rise in Northwich, Namptwich, and Middlewich, which are called the Salt Wiches, and Dunham, at the distance of about six miles from each other. The pits are seldom more than four yards deep, and never more than seven. In two places in Namptwich the spring breaks out in the meadows so as to fret away the grass; and a salt liquor ouzes through the earth, which is swampy to a considerable distance. The salt springs at Namptwich are about thirty miles from the sea, and generally lie along the river Weaver; yet there is an appearance of the same vein at Middlewich, nearer a little stream called the Dane, or Dan, than the Weaver. All these springs lie near brooks, and in meadow grounds. The water is so very cold at the bottom of these pits, that the briners cannot stay in them above half an hour at a time, nor so long, without frequently drinking strong waters. Some of these springs afford much more water than others; but it is observed, that there is more salt in any given quantity of water drawn from the springs that yield little, than in the same quantity drawn from those that yield much; and that the strength of the brine is generally in proportion to the paucity of the spring. It is also remarkable, that more salt is produced from the same quantity of brine in dry weather than in wet. From whence the brine of these springs is supplied, is a question that has never yet been finally decided: some have supposed it to come from the sea; some from subterraneous rocks of salt, which were discovered in these parts about the middle of the last century; and others from subtle saline particles, subsisting in the air and deposited in a proper bed. It is not probable that this water comes from the sea, because a quart of sea water will produce no more than an ounce and half of salt, but a quart of water from these springs will often produce seven or eight ounces. But whether the saline rocks, or the saline particles, are the

the cause of this phænomenon, future naturalists must determine. The stone which is wrought into mill-stones is dug from a quarry at Mowcop Hill, near Congleton.

The principal rivers are the Mersee, the Weaver, and the Dee. The Mersee runs from the north-east westward, and dividing this county from Lancashire, falls into the northern creek of the peninsula. The Weaver rises in Shropshire, runs from south to north, and falls also into the northern creek. The Dee rises from two springs near Bala, a market-town in Merionethshire, in Wales, and is a name supposed to have been derived from *Dwy*, which in the ancient British language signifies the number *two*; it runs north-east through Merionethshire and Denbighshire, and then directing its course north, and separating Cheshire from North Wales, falls into the southern creek of the peninsula. The Dee abounds with salmon; and it is remarkable that the longest and heaviest rains never cause it to overflow, though it always floods the neighbouring fields when the wind blows fresh at south-west. The British name of this river is *Dyffyr dwy*, a word signifying *the water of two springs*. The Romans called it *Deva*, probably from *Dyffyr*; and its present name is evidently derived from the same source. Of the names of the Mersee and Weaver there is no account. Besides these rivers there are several meres and lakes of considerable extent, which abound with carp, tench, bream, eels, and other fish.

This county is divided into seven hundreds, and contains one city and twelve market towns. It lies in the province of York and diocese of Chester, and includes one hundred and twenty-four parishes.

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## C I T Y.

The city of CHESTER derives its name from *Castra*, the Latin name for a camp, the Roman legions having several times encamped near this place; and the twentieth legion, called *Victrix*, being settled here by the emperor Galba, under Titus Vinius, to overawe the inhabitants of the neighbouring counties.

Chester is a large, populous, and wealthy city, with a noble bridge, which has a gate at each end, and twelve arches over the Dee, which falls into the sea. It has eleven parishes, and nine well built churches. The cathedral, called St. Werburg's, once a monastery, looks as antique as the castle. Some



say they were both built by William the Norman's nephew, Hugh Lupus; and others, that the church was founded by Edgar. The continual resort of passengers here, to and from Ireland, adds very much to its trade.

This city is supposed to have been founded by the Romans; and after it had submitted to the Saxons, the Britons recovered and kept it, till Egbert, the first Saxon monarch, took it from them about the year 826; and sixty years after it was taken by the Danes; but they were besieged, and forced to surrender it to the united Saxons and Britons. In the reign of King Edward the Elder it was enlarged; and King Edgar having in the thirteenth year of his reign summoned all the Kings and Princes of the island hither to pay him homage, the Kings of Scotland, Cumberland, and Man, and five petty Kings of Wales, swore fealty to him, and rowed him in a barge on the river Dee, while he himself sat in triumph steering the helm.

The houses here in general are of timber, very large and spacious, but are built with galleries, piazzas, or covered walls before them, in which the passengers are so hid, that to look into the streets one sees nobody stirring, except with horses, coaches, carts, &c. and the shops are hardly to be seen from the streets, so that they are for the most part dark and close; but in such parts where the rows do not cloud the buildings, there are large well built houses. The streets are generally even and spacious, and crossing one another in strait lines meet in the centre. The walls were first erected by Ædelfleda, a Mercian lady, in the year 908, and joined on the south side of the city to the castle, from whence there is a pleasant walk round the city upon the walls, except where it is intercepted by some of the towers over the gates; and from hence there is a prospect of Flintshire and the mountains of Wales. The city consists chiefly of four large streets, which make an exact cross, with the town-house and an exchange in the middle, which is a neat structure, supported by columns thirteen feet high, of one stone each. The city has four gates, three posterns, and is two miles in compass. The episcopal see was first translated to it from Litchfield immediately after the conquest; but it was afterwards removed to Coventry, and thence back again to Litchfield; so that Chester remained without this dignity till it was restored by King Henry the Eighth. It was made a corporation and county by King

Henry the Seventh. It is governed by a mayor, twenty-four aldermen, two sheriffs, and forty common-council-men. In the castle, where the Earls of Chester formerly held their parliaments, is a stately hall, somewhat like that at Westminster, where the palatine courts and assizes are held; there are also offices for the records, a prison for the county, and a tower ascribed to Julius Cæsar. A Dutch colony was settled here not many years ago, by whose industry the traffic of this city was much augmented; but the manufacture of most note here is tobacco-pipes, said to be the best in Europe, being made of clay brought from the Isle of Wight, Pool, and Biddeford. Here are assemblies every week, and horse-races upon St. George's Day, beyond the Rhodée, which is a fine large green, but so low that it is often overflowed by the Dee. The walls of this city being built like most of the houses, of a stone which is a soft reddish grit, often want repairing; for which purpose there are officers called Murengers. The keeping of the city gates was once reckoned so honourable an office, that it was claimed by several noble families; as East-gate by the Earl of Oxford, Bridge-gate by the Earl of Shrewsbury, Water-gate by the Earl of Derby, and North-gate by the mayor of the city. On the east side of it there is a postern, which was shut up by one of its mayors, because his daughter, who had been at stool-ball, with some maidens in Pepper-street, was stolen and conveyed away through this gate; this has occasioned a proverb here, "When the daughter is stolen, shut Pepper-gate." The city is well supplied with water from the river Dee by mills, and the water-tower, which is one of the gates of the bridge. The centre of the city, where the four streets meet facing the cardinal points, is called the Pentise, from whence there is a pleasant prospect of all four at once. The suburb of Hanbrid is called by the Welch *Treboth*; that is, *Burnt Town*; it having been often burnt by them in their incursions. The fee-farm rents of this city are vested in the Princes of Wales, as Earls of Chester, who hold them with the castle and profits of the temporalities of the bishoprick, and the freemen swear to be true to the King and Earl. The officers established here are, a governor of the city and castle, a lieutenant-governor, with a master-gunner, store-keeper, and furbisher of small arms; and for the customs, besides a collector, comptroller, and searcher, here are twenty-one subordinate officers. Here is a charity-



school for forty boys, who are taught, clothed, and maintained by a fund of five hundred pounds and seventy pounds a year subscription. This place was of great account so early as in the days of King Arthur, for teaching the arts and sciences and the learned languages. King Ethelwolf, and two other British Kings, are said to have been crowned here; and, it is said, that Henry the Fourth, Emperor of Germany, died and was buried here, after having lived a hermit here unknown for ten years. This city is one hundred and eighty-one miles from London.

A little below Chester, on the south side of the peninsula, called Wiral, is *Park Gate*, the port at which passengers from England to Ireland take shipping, and passengers from Ireland to England come on shore.

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## MARKET-TOWNS.

MACCLESFIELD is one hundred and seventy miles from London. It is situated on the river Bollin, and is a borough, governed by a mayor. It has a church, which is a fair edifice, with a high steeple, in form of a spire; but it is rather a chapel than a church, for it stands in the parish of Prestbury. On the south side of the church there is a college, founded by Thomas Savage, who was first Bishop of London, and then Archbishop of York; there is also an oratory on the same side, built by the Leighs of Lime. In this place there is a free school, of an ancient foundation; and the chief manufacture is buttons.

NAMPTWICH lies on the Vale Royal, on the river Weaver, and is distant from London one hundred and sixty-one miles. It is the greatest and best built town in the county, except Chester; the streets are regular, and adorned with many gentlemen's houses; the church is a large and beautiful structure, built in the form of a cross, like a cathedral, with a steeple in the middle: it has two charity schools, one for forty boys, and the other for thirty girls. The inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in cheese and salt, both which are made here in the greatest perfection; they also derive considerable advantages from its being the greatest thoroughfare to Ireland, and from the traffic which is carried on at their great weekly fairs for corn and cattle.

CONGLETON

CONGLETON is so called from its old name *Condatum*, which it is supposed to derive from *Condate*, a town in ancient Gaul, whence it was peopled. It is one hundred and sixty-one miles distant from London, and stands on the borders of Staffordshire. The town is well built though it is ancient, and the middle of it is watered by the little brook Howrey, the east side by the Daning Schow, and the north side by the Dan, over which it has a bridge. It is very populous, and in ancient writings is called a borough; it is now a corporation, governed by a mayor and six aldermen, and has two churches. It carries on a considerable trade in leather-gloves, &c.

HALTON, or HAULTON; that is, *High Town*, is so called from its situation, which is a hill about two miles north of Frodsham, and about one hundred and eighty-two miles distant from London. It has a castle, said to have been built by Hugh Lupus, to whom the county was granted by William the Conqueror, which, with the barony, belongs to the duchy of Lancaster, and maintains a large jurisdiction in the county round it, by the name of Halton Fee, or the Honour of Halton, having a court of record and a prison. The King's officers of the duchy keep a law day at the castle every year about Michaelmas; and a court is held there once a fortnight, to determine all matters within their jurisdiction. The inhabitants claim a market here by prescription, and there is a small market held here on a Saturday; but the town has not been generally considered as a market-town, nor registered as such.

NORTHWICH is one hundred and seventy-two miles distant from London, and stands on the river Weaver, near its conflux with the Dan. It appears by the buildings to be of considerable antiquity, and is so near the centre of the county, that it is generally made the place of meeting to transact public affairs. There is a deep and plentiful brine pit near the brink of the river Dan, with stairs about it, by which, when they have drawn the water in leathern buckets, they ascend half naked to the troughs and fill them, from whence it is conveyed to the wick houses. The salt is not so white as at other wiches, nor made with so much ease. On the south side of this town, about fifty years ago a great many mines of rock salt were discovered, which they continue frequently to dig up  
and



and send in great lumps to the sea-ports, where it is dissolved and made into eating salt. The salt quarries here, when a person is let down into them to the depth of about one hundred and fifty feet, afford a most pleasant prospect, looking like a subterraneous cathedral supported by rows of pillars, having a chrystal roof, all of the same rock, transparent and glittering from the numerous candles burnt there to light the workmen, who, with their steel pick-axes, dig it away. This rock work extends several acres. There is a good church in this town, with a fine roof and semicircular choir.

FRODSHAM is a sea-port, distant from London one hundred and eighty-three miles. It is situated on the river Weaver, near its conflux with the Mersee, and has a stone-bridge over it. It consists of one long street, at the west end of which there is a castle that for many ages was the seat of the Earls Rivers. It has a church, which stands at a field's length from the town, near a lofty hill called Frodsham Hill, the highest in the county, on which there used to be a beacon. About a mile from this town, in the way to Halton, is a bridge over the Weaver, of brick, called Frodsham Bridge.

MALPAS derives its name from the narrow, steep, rugged way to it. The Romans called it *Malo Passus*, and the Normans *Malpas*, the name which it still retains. It is one hundred and sixty-six miles from London, and is situated on a high hill on the borders of Shropshire, not far from the Dee. It consists principally of three streets, which are now well paved. It has a stately church, which stands on the highest part of the town, and the benefice is so considerable, that it supports two rectors, who officiate alternately. It had formerly a castle, and has now a grammar-school and an hospital.

MIDDLEWICH, so called because it stands between Namptwich and Northwich, is distant from London one hundred and sixty-six miles, and stands on the conflux of the Dan with the Croke. It is an ancient borough, governed by burgessees. It consists of many streets and lanes, and is very populous. The salt water springs here are said to produce more salt, in proportion to the brine, than those at any other place. The parish extends into many townships, and the town has a spacious church.

SANDBACH

SANDBACH is one hundred and sixty-one miles from London, and is delightfully situated on the river Wheelock, which flows in three streams from Mowcop Hill, and falls into the Dan a little above the town. It has a church with a lofty steeple, and in the market-place there are two stone crosses, elevated on steps, and adorned with several images, and the history of the sufferings of Christ carved in basso relievo. The ale here is much admired, and is said to be equal to that of Derby.

STOCKPORT, sometimes called STOPFORD, is one hundred and seventy-five miles distant from London, and is situated on the south side of the river Mersee, over which it had a bridge, but it was blown up in the year 1745, to prevent the rebel army, which had marched from the north of Scotland into the centre of this kingdom, from returning that way.

KNOTTESFORD, NUTFORD, or CANUTE'S FORD, is one hundred and eighty-three miles from London, and stands near the Mersee, in a fine situation. It is divided into two parts, called the Upper and the Lower Town, by a rivulet called Bicken. In the Upper Town there is a church, and in the Lower, a chapel, the market and town-house.

ALTRINGHAM, or ALTRINCHAM, is one hundred and eighty-four miles from London, and situated between Warrington and Stockport, near the borders of Lancashire. It is governed by a mayor of an ancient institution, but contains nothing remarkable.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

At *Woodhay*, near Namptwich, is the seat of the Earl of Dysart; and the same nobleman has another seat at *Dutton*, thirteen miles from Chester. At *Cumbermere*, on the borders of Shropshire, is a seat of Sir Lynch Salisbury Cotton, baronet. *Slough Hall*, near Chester, is the seat of Thomas Brereton, Esquire. *Kinderton Park*, is the seat of Lord Vernon. *Pointon Hill*, near Stockport, is the seat of Sir George Warren. The Earl of Cholmondeley has a seat about seven miles from Namptwich; as has also the Earl of Barrymore, at  
Rock



*Rock Savage*, near Frodsham; Lord Grosvenor at *Eaton*, near Chester; and Sir Roger Moxton, at *Cathristleton*, in the hundred of Proxton. *Crew Hall*, in the hundred of Namptwich, is the seat of John Crew, Esquire. *Vale Royal* is the seat of Charles Cholmondeley, Esquire; and at *Lime*, in the hundred of Macclesfield, is a seat of Peter Leigh, Esquire.

In this county there are several mineral springs, particularly at Stockport there is a chalybeat, said to be stronger than that at Tunbridge. In the morasses, or mosses, whence the country people cut their turf, or peat, for fuel, there are marine shells in great plenty, pine cones, nuts and shells, trunks of fir-trees, and fir-apples, with many other exotic substances. The morasses in which these substances are found, are frequently upon the summit of high mountains, and the learned are much divided in their opinion how they came there; the general opinion is, that they were brought thither by the deluge, not merely from their situation, but because seven or eight vast trees are frequently found lying much closer to each other than it was possible they could grow; and under the trees are frequently found the *exuviae* of animals, as shells and bones of fishes; and particularly the head of an hippotamus was dug from one of these moors some years ago, and was seen by Dr. Leigh, who has written the natural history of this county. There are, however, substances of a much later date than the general deluge found among these trees and *exuviae*, particularly a mill-stone, a brass kettle, and some amber beads, which were given to the doctor soon after they were dug up. The fir-trees are dug up by the peasants, and are so full of turpentine, that they are cut into slips, and used instead of candles.

At *Sangball*, near Chester, there lived in the year 1668, a woman aged seventy-two years, who had two horns growing out of the right side of her head, a little above her ear. When she was twenty-eight years old, an excrescence grew out of this part of her head, which resembled a wen; after it had continued thirty-two years, it shot out into two horns, about three inches long; after they had continued five years she cast them, and two more came up in their room; after four years she cast these, and two more grew up in their room, which continued growing four years, and then became loose.

There

There is a small wild white-hart cherry, peculiar to a little spot in this county, near Frodsham; where there is also a free-stone rock, in which the belemnites, or thunderbolt, has been often found.

At a little distance from Delamere Forest, near a village called Bunbury, stands *Beeston Castle*, which was built by Ranulph the Third, the sixth earl of Chester, after the conquest, when he returned from the holy war. This Ranulph begun his government in the year 1180, and having governed something more than fifty years, died in 1232. The castle, which covers a great extent of ground, stands upon a hill, and is fortified, as well by the mountains that almost surround it, as by its wall, and the great number of its towers; the chief of these towers was supplied with water from a well that is ninety-one yards deep, though it is supposed to be near half filled up with rubbish that has either fallen into it by accident, or been thrown into it by design. This castle is now in a ruinous condition, but Leland, in some verses which he wrote upon it, says, that if old prophecies are to be believed, it will in some future time recover its original splendour.—Near this place there are many traces of ditches and other military works.

In a ruinous fabrick, called the *Chapter*, at Chester, there was discovered, about thirty years ago, a skeleton, supposed to be the remains of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester; the bones were very fresh, and in their natural position; they were wrapped in leather, and contained in a stone coffin; the legs were bound together at the ancles, and the string was entire.





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## C O R N W A L L.

**T**HIS county is bounded on the south, the west, and the north, by the sea, and on the east by the river Tamar, which divides it from Devonshire. Its greatest length, east and west, is seventy-eight miles and an half, and its greatest width, south-south-east to north-north-west, is forty-three miles and a quarter.

Four-fifths of the outlines of this county being washed by the sea, the air is necessarily more damp than in places more remote from the coast. A dry summer is here extremely rare; but the rains are rather frequent than heavy; and there are few days so wet but that some part of them is fair, and few so cloudy but that there are intervals of sun shine. Storms of wind are more sudden and more violent than within the land, and the air is impregnated with salt, which rises with the vapours from the sea. This quality of the air is very unfavourable to scorbutic habits; it is also hurtful to shrubs and trees, and in general to tender shoots of whatever kind, which after a storm that drives the sea air upon them, generally appear shrivelled, and have a salt taste; for which reason there are no plantations of wood on rising grounds, nor any such hedgerows of tall trees in Cornwall, as there are in the northern counties of England, which, though farther from the sun, are not exposed to blasts from the sea. In Cornwall, however, the winters are more mild than in any other part of the island, so that myrtles will flourish without a green-house, if they are secured from the salt winds that blow from the sea. The snow seldom lies more than three or four days upon the ground, and a violent shower of hail is scarcely ever known. The spring shews itself early in buds and blossoms, but its progress is not so quick as elsewhere. The summers are not hotter in proportion as the winters are less cold; for the air is always cooled by a breeze from the sea, and the beams of the sun are not reflected from the surrounding water with so much strength

strength as from the earth ; it happens, therefore, that though Cornwall is the most southern county in England, yet the harvest is later, and the fruit has less flavour, than in the midland parts. As the county abounds in mines, the air is filled with mineral vapours, which in some parts are so inflammable as to take fire, and appear in flames over the grounds from which they arise. But notwithstanding the saline and mineral particles that float in the atmosphere, the air of Cornwall is very healthy ; for it is in a great measure free from the exhalations that in other places arise from bogs, marshes, and standing pools, and from the corrupt air that stagnates in the dead calm that is often found among thick woods. In Cornwall the country is open, the soil in general sound, and the air always in motion, which may well atone for any noxious effluvia supposed to rise either from the mines or the sea.

The soil of Cornwall is of three kinds, the black and gritty, the shelfey and flattey, and the stiff reddish soil, approaching to clay. The highest grounds are covered with the black soil ; and on the tops and sides of hills it bears nothing but four-grass, moss, and heath, which is cut up in thin turfs for spring ; and in the places where the ground is level or hollow, so that the rain cannot run off, which are few, and but of small extent, it is formed into bogs and marshes ; these bogs yield nothing but a thick brick turf, full of the matted roots of sedge-grass, the juncus, and other marsh plants, which, when perfectly dry, make a strong fuel. In crofts further down from the hills, this black soil serves as wintering for horned cattle, and bears good potatoes, rye, and pillas ; in fields it bears barley and oats, and serves as pasture for cows and sheep, but seldom yields any advantages when it is sown with wheat. The shelfey flattey soil is found chiefly about the middle of the county ; this is reckoned to bear better corn, especially wheat, and a stronger spine of grass than the black. The reddish loamy soil, which is common on level grounds and gentle declivities, is of a closer texture and yields better crops. But these three soils are not always found distinct from each other, but in many places are mixed in a great variety of proportions.

In the mines of this county there are often found the ochrous earths of metals, the rusty ochre of iron, the green and blue ochres of copper, and the pale yellow ochre of lead, the brown yellow of tin, and the red ochre of bismuth. The



ochre of lead, in its natural state, mixes well with oil, and gives a colour between the light and brown ochre. There is also, in almost every parish, strata of clay for making brick, as well as white clay for tobacco-pipes, bricks for smelting-houses and other purposes, and a great variety of the clay called steatites, from their extreme resemblance of tallow.

Of the sea-sands there is in this county a great variety; some are spread in a stratum on the highest hills, and some are found in the cliffs far above the highest sea mark. On the side of St. Agnes Beacon, one of the highest hills on the sea shore, at the height of at least four hundred and eighty feet above the level of the sea, the strata appeared, upon digging, in the following order: The vegetable soil and common rubbish under it, five feet deep; of fine white and yellow clay, six feet; under this a layer of sand like that of the sea below; six feet under this a layer of round smooth stones, such as are found on the beach; then a layer of white stoney rubbish or earth, four feet deep; and then the firm rock, within which are veins of tin.

The principal rivers of Cornwall are the Tamar and the Camel. The Tamar rises in Moor-Winstow, the most northern parish in this county, about three miles from the sea coast. It issues from the summit of a moor, whence part of the water descending to the north, forms the river Turridge; and the other parts, descending to the south, forms the Tamar. At the distance of about ten miles from its source, it gives name to the small parish and village called North Tamerton, where it is crossed by a stone bridge. In its course it receives many small streams; and at Polston Bridge (a large fair stone fabric, erected, as Leland says, by the abbey of Tavistock) it becomes a wide and rapid stream. As it continues its course, it passes under another, called Greystone Bridge, about twenty miles from its source. The stream still increasing by the conflux of other waters, passes under a high, strong, stone bridge, at Stoke-Clymsland, called Horse Bridge. At a small distance it passes under another bridge, sometimes called Calstock Bridge, from the parish in which it stands; and sometimes New Bridge. Five miles farther down the Tamar becomes a spacious harbour; and passing within half a mile of Saltash, it is joined by the creek and river called Lynher; and then passing  
strait

strait forward, forms the noble harbour called Hamoaze, a Saxon word, signifying the wet or oozy habitation or district. At this place it makes two large creeks on the west, one called St. John's, the other Millbrook; and one creek to the east, called Stonehouse Creek; and then (after a course of about forty miles, nearly south,) it falls into the sea.

The Camel rises about two miles north of Camelford, and after a course of about twelve miles, it becomes navigable for barges. A few miles further it runs by Egloshayle, the church on the river, where it receives a small stream called the Laine. About a mile further, it runs under the largest bridge in this county, called Wade Bridge. The erection of this bridge was undertaken by the vicar of Egloshayle, whose name was Lovedon, in the year 1460, as a work of public utility, there being at that time a ferry which could be plied only when the tide was in; and when the tide was out the ford was very dangerous. The expence of this noble work was greatly disproportioned to his circumstances; and in the course of the work many difficulties arose, by which a mind less ardent and less firm would have been driven from its purpose. The foundation of some of the piers proved so swampy, that after many other expedients had been tried, without success, they were at last built upon woolpacks. But Lovedon, whatever might be his difficulties and discouragements, persevered; and being assisted by the bounty of others, whose assistance he solicited with unwearied application, when his own powers were exhausted, he lived to see the bridge completed as it now stands, with seventeen arches stretching quite across the valley, to the great emolument of this county, and the immortal honour of his name. Small barks of fifty or sixty tons come up to this bridge, and supply the country with coals from Wales, and with lime, timber, and grocery, from Bristol. About a mile below the bridge, the Camel forms two small creeks to the east, and soon after two others to the west. After it has flowed about a mile farther, it reaches Padstow, where it is about a mile wide, and there is a ferry-boat to cross it. About two miles below Padstow the sea has thrown a bar of sand across the haven, which prevents ships of more than two hundred tons from coming in at all, and renders it dangerous even for smaller ships to come in, except when the tide is high and the weather fair.

Besides



Besides the Tamar and the Camel, there are in this county the following small rivers :

The Lynher, which rises on some hills, in the parish of Altarum, about eight miles west of Launceston, and after a course of about twenty-four miles, falls into the Tamar. In summer the stream is small, but in winter rapid, wide, and dangerous, frequently over-flowing its banks, and carrying away ricks, barns, and houses, and whatever else happens to be in its way.

The Tide, or Tidi, which rises on the south side of a hill called Caradon Hill, near Liskeard, and falls into the Lynher a little below St. Germans.

The Seaton, which rises in some high lands called St. Clare, about four miles to the north-east of Liskeard ; and its whole course is about twelve miles.

The Loo, or East Loo, which, as well as the Seaton, has its rise on the high lands of St. Clare, and after a course of about ten miles, falls into the sea. A bridge crosses this river from East Loo to West Loo ; it is built of stone, over fifteen arches, and is one hundred and forty-one yards long, and six feet three inches wide between the walls.

The Duloo, that is, the Black Loo ; or, as it is sometimes called, the West Loo, which rises in the parish of St. Pinnock, and after a course of about seven miles, falls into the East Loo.

The Fawy, or Fauwy, which rises in a moor called Fauwy Moor, near a mountain called Brownwilly, which is one of the highest in the county. It passes under six bridges ; and having received several rivulets in a course of twenty-six miles, it falls into the sea between two old towers that were built in the reign of Edward the Fourth.

The Fal, or Fala, rises at a place called Fenton Val, about two miles to the west of some hills called Roche Hills ; and after a course of about twenty miles, falls into the sea, forming an harbour near a mile wide, secured with hills and winding creeks, with a deep channel and a bold shore. In this harbour an hundred ships may anchor, and not one see the other's top. It is also conveniently situated for getting clear of the Channel, and (yielding only to Milford Haven, on the coast of Wales) it is reckoned the second harbour in Great Britain. There is, however, a large rock near the middle of it, the top of which is below high water mark ; but no damage

magt happens from it, because the heirs of Killigrew (the lords of Pendennis castle, which guards the entrance) are obliged to keep a tall pole fixed on the highest part of it, so that the situation is always seen and avoided.

The Hêl, which issues from some hills near Penhâl Guy; and after a course of about six miles falls into the sea, where it forms a haven, and is near a mile wide.

The Lo, or Loo, which is called the Loo in Kerrier, the name of the hundred through which it flows, to distinguish it from the East and West Loo, rises in the north part of a parish called Windron; and after a course of about six miles falls into the sea, having first formed a lake called Loo Pool.

The Hêl or Heyl, in Penrith, which rises from four brooks, about three miles north of a place called St. Erth; and after a course of more than five miles, falls into the sea at St. Ives Bay.

These are all the rivers in Cornwall that are navigable in any part of their course: the others are too inconsiderable to be particularly mentioned.

The natural product of this county are wheat, barley, oats and rye; of which, in a plentiful year, some can be spared for exportation; in a moderate year there is just sufficient for home consumption; and in a year of scarcity, it is necessary to purchase from other counties.—Among the products of this county may be reckoned the stones that are used either for building or for ornament. The surface of the ground in almost every part of Cornwall, yields an opaque whitish chrystal, commonly called white spar, in great plenty; these are used only to repair the roads and face hedges. On the south-east coast, between Liskeard and the Tamar, there are some quarries of slate, which is exported in considerable quantities. And at a place called Denyball, not far from Boffiney, on the north coast, there is a quarry of slate for covering roofs, said to be the finest in the world. The whole quarry is about three hundred yards long, and one hundred wide; the deepest part is judged to be about forty fathom below the grass; the green sod reaches downwards about one foot; a yellow brown clay two feet more; then the rock, which, to the depth of twelve fathom, consists of a lax shattery slate, which is fit for nothing; then comes a firmer brown stone, which becomes still browner in the air, and is fit both  
for



for paving and roofing; this is called the top stone, and the stratum is ten fathom deep; under this lies the fine slate, which is called the bottom stone; it is of a grey blue colour, and of a texture so close, that it sounds upon being struck, like metal.—At St. Columb, farther towards the Land's End, on the north coast, there is a quarry of free-stone, of which no use is made, though it might well serve all the purposes of Portland, but is not quite so fine.—This county also abounds with coarse granites of various colours and different degrees of continuity. There are also some quarries of marble, but it is not remarkable either for its beauty or use; but there are no gravel pits where pebbles and flints lie in heaps and strata, though the beach of the bays and creeks is strewed with an infinite variety of both. The swimming stone has been found in a copper mine near Redruth; it consists of rectilinear lamina as thin as paper, intersecting each other in all directions, and leaving unequal cavities between them; a structure which renders the stone so cellular as to swim in water. Gems of several kinds have been found in the tin mines, but so small as not to be critically examined without a microscope, particularly topazes very highly coloured, rubies as red as a carbuncle, hyacinths, and amethysts. Of chrystals there is great variety both figured and plain.—Another product of this county is semi-metal, of which there is a great variety; bismuth, speltre, zink, naptha, antimony, lapis calaminaris, and molybdæna, or pencil lead; cobalt, a substance containing arsenic, zaffer, and smalt; and mundic, called also marcasite, which contains arsenic, sulphur, vitriol, and mercury.—But the principal product of this county is tin and copper; these metals are found in veins or fissures, which are sometimes filled with other substances, and the substance, whatever it is, with which fissures are filled, is in Cornwall called a lode, from an old Anglo-Saxon word, which signifies to lead, as the miners always follow its direction. The course of the fissures is generally east and west, not however in a strait line, but wavy, and one side is sometimes a hard stone, and the other loose clay. Most of these lodes are impregnated with metal, but none are impregnated equally in all parts. These lodes are not often more than two feet wide, and the greater part is not more than one; but, in general, the smaller the lode the better the metal. The direction of these lodes is seldom

dom perpendicular, but declines to the right or left, though in different degrees. Tin is the peculiar and most valuable product of the county; it affords employment, and consequently subsistence to the poor, affluence to the lords of the soil, a considerable revenue to our Prince of Wales, who is Duke of Cornwall, and an important article of trade to the nation in all the foreign markets of the known world. Copper is no where found richer, or in greater variety of ores than in Cornwall; though the mines have not been worked with much advantage longer than eighty years. The most common ore is of a common brass colour; but there is some green, some blue, some black, some grey, and some red; the green, blue, and black, yield but little; the grey contains more metal than the yellow, and the red more than the grey. There are besides, in almost all the considerable mines, small quantities of malleable copper, which the miners, from its purity, call the virgin ore. The annual income to the county from copper is at this time nearly equal to that of tin; and both are still capable of improvement. Besides tin and copper, Cornwall produces iron, though there are no mines of this metal yet worked in the county. Lead is also found in some parts of this county, but the greater part of it is what the miners call potters ore. Gold in very small quantities has also sometimes been discovered in the tin ore.

With respect to trees, whether of the forest or orchard, there is scarcely any thing peculiar to this county. The plants and herbage both of the field and garden, are also nearly the same as in other counties; and the sea plants are not different from those found on other parts of the coast, neither is there any animal, whether of the air, earth, or water, that is peculiar to this county, except the pyrrhocorax, a crow with a red bill and red feet, called the Cornish chough, and the seal, or sea calf, which is frequently found in the caves and other parts of the shores which are least frequented.

This county is divided into nine hundreds, and contains thirty-one towns which are incorporated, or have a market; for as some market-towns are not corporations, some corporations have no market. It lies in the diocese of Exeter, and province of Canterbury.



MARKET-TOWNS *and* PARLIAMENTARY  
BOROUGHES.

LAUNCESTON is situated on a rising ground near the river Tamar, and is two hundred and fourteen miles from London. It includes two ancient boroughs, called Dunhivid, or Dunevet, and Newport. It was made a free borough by King Henry the Third, and incorporated by Queen Mary in 1555. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, and eight aldermen. It is a populous and trading town, and one of the most ancient in the county. It has a parish church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, whose image is curiously cut in the wall; and here are also the remains of a castle, which was once so strong a place as to obtain the name of Castle Terrible. The round hill on which it stands is environed with a triple wall, but it is at present so much decayed that no part of it is used except that which serves for the county gaol. Here the knights of the shire are elected; and here is a free school and two charity schools; the free school was founded by Queen Elizabeth, and the charity schools are supported by private contribution. They are for the benefit of both sexes; and the girls, besides reading, are taught to knit, sew, and make bone lace, and are allowed what they earn. By an act made in the thirty-second year of King Henry the Eighth for the repair of Cornish boroughs, this town was endowed with the privilege of a sanctuary, but it does not appear that these privileges have ever been claimed.

BODMIN is two hundred and thirty-two miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, twenty-four common-councilmen, and a town-clerk, who have a toll and lands to the value of about two hundred pounds a year. This town lies between two hills almost in the centre of the county, a situation which renders it less healthful than any other part of Cornwall. It consists chiefly of one street, which is near a mile long, and runs from east to west. Its church is the largest in the county, and had once a spire, but that was destroyed by lightning in the year 1699. The remains of an episcopal palace and priory are still to be seen, and in the reign of King Henry the Eighth it was reckoned the largest town in the county. Here is a good corn and flesh market, the sheriff's prison for debtors, and a free school,  
maintained

maintained partly by the Duke of Cornwall, and partly by the corporation. The principal manufacture is yarn, for which Bodmin was once the only staple in the county, but in this it is much decayed. A carnival is kept every July on Halgaver Moor, near this town, which is resorted to by great numbers.—Near Bodmin is a well, whose water is remarkable for being much heavier than any other, and for preserving its scent and taste for near a year successively. Though this well is called Scarlet Well, yet it discovers a great variety of colours.—Not far from this place likewise are those monumental stones, called the Hulers, which Dr. Stukely makes no doubt are the remains of an ancient Druid temple. They stand on a down in three circles, and had their name from the superstitious notion of the peasants thereabouts, that they were once men, but transformed into stones for diverting themselves on Sundays at their favourite exercise of hurling.

LISKEARD is two hundred and twenty miles from London, and was first incorporated by Edward Earl of Cornwall, and afterwards by Queen Elizabeth; in virtue of whose charter it is governed by a mayor and burgeses, has power to purchase lands, and to hold by perpetual succession. It stands upon a hill, and is said to be now one of the largest and best built towns in Cornwall, though in the reign of King James the First it consisted of little else than the ruins of ancient buildings, which shewed that it had once been great. The church is large, and the town-hall is a handsome building, erected on stone pillars, with a turret, in which there is a clock that has four dials. This town has also a curious conduit, a meeting-house, and a free school. It carries on a considerable trade in the manufacture of leather, and spins considerable quantities of yarn for the Devonshire clothiers.—Near this town there is a park, where the late Lord Radnor had a fine seat; and on the adjacent commons there have been frequent horse-races.

LOSTWITHIEL is two hundred and twenty-nine miles from London, and was first incorporated by Richard Earl of Cornwall, and has had other charters since. It is governed by seven capital burgeses, of whom one is a mayor, and seventeen assistants, or common council. It originally stood upon a high hill, where there are still the remains of an ancient castle



called Lestormin, or Restormel, which was the Duke of Cornwall's palace; but the town is now removed into the valley; and though it is well built, it is not populous, because the river Fawey, on which it stands, is so choaked with sand, that it is no longer navigable for the vessels, which in the last age used to bring manufactures and commodities of various kinds quite up to the town. It has, however, some peculiar privileges: the common gaol for all the stannaries, and their several weights and measures are kept here; and this town holds the bushelage of coals, salt, malt, and corn in Fowey, and the anchorage in its harbour, for which, and other liberties, it pays eleven pounds, nineteen shillings, and ten pence a year to the dutchy of Cornwall. It has a church with a spire, the only one, except that of Helston, in the whole county. The great hall and exchequer of the Dukes of Cornwall were defaced in 1644. The trade that remains is woollen manufactures.

HELSTON is two hundred and seventy miles from London, was incorporated by Queen Elizabeth, and is governed by a mayor, aldermen, and common council. It is situated on the river Cober, not far from its influx into the sea, and is a large and populous town. It is one of the towns appointed for the coinage of tin, and is the place of assembly for the west division of the shire. It chiefly consists of some streets, built in the form of a cross, through each of which runs a stream of water. At the intersection of these streets stands the market-house, which is a large convenient building. This town has also a guildhall and a church, with a steeple that is ninety feet high, and serves as a sea mark. A little below the town is a harbour, by no means contemptible, where many of the tin ships take in their loading.

BOSSINEY, called also TINTAGEL and TREVENA, is two hundred and thirty-three miles from London, and governed by a mayor and burgeses. This town stands upon two rocks, one of which is on the main land, and the other in the sea. The two parts were formerly drawn together by a drawbridge, which has been since destroyed by the fall of the cliffs on the farther side, which has filled up the space between the two parts of the town; but the passage over these cliffs is extremely troublesome and dangerous. The farthestmost of the  
rocks

rocks that was surrounded by the sea, is called Black Head, and is well known to mariners. It is wholly inaccessible by water, except at one place towards the east, and there it is very difficult and incommodious. In this place it was formerly fenced with a wall, through which there was an entrance by an iron gate by the declivity of the rock, which was very steep and craggy; and there is a cave under this rock or island, which reached quite through it to the main, on the other side of the draw-bridge, and was navigable for boats at full sea; but the farther end of it is now stopped by the stupendous fragments of the rock that have fallen down; and when the passage was open, the subterraneous darkness and rude aspect of the cavern gave it so horrid an appearance that few ventured to go through it. On the rock above are the ruins of a castle, said to have been the birth-place of the British King Arthur. The place at this time is very inconsiderable, being little more than the ruins of ancient buildings, most of which were of stone, joined together by a cement so strong that where the stone itself is wasted away this frequently remains.

FALMOUTH, so called from its situation at the mouth of the river Fal, is two hundred and sixty-three miles from London. It is governed by a mayor and aldermen, and is the richest and most trading town in the county, being superior to any three of the boroughs that send members to parliament. The harbour, which is guarded by the castles of St. Maws and Pendennis, is described in the account of the river Fal, by which it is formed. The town is well built, and has a church, which was formerly a chapel to that of the parish of St. Gluvias; but by an act of the sixteenth of King Charles the Second it was made a parish church. The custom-house for most of the Cornish towns is at this place, where the principal collectors of those duties reside. About the time of King William packet-boats were established here for Spain, Portugal, and the West Indies, which has greatly increased the trade of the place. These vessels bring over great quantities of gold both in specie and bars; and the merchants of Falmouth now trade with the Portuguese in ships of their own; they have also a considerable share in the pilchard fishery, which brings in very great profit.

FOWEY,



FOWEY, or FAWEY, so called from the river on which it stands, is two hundred and thirty-nine miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, and eight aldermen, a town-clerk, and other officers, who hold the toll of the fair, and quayage of the harbour, under the dutchy, at forty shillings per annum rent. Fowey has a commodious haven in the Channel, and is both populous and extensive, reaching more than a mile on the east side of the river. There was formerly a fort on each side of the harbour, and a chain reaching from one to the other quite across the river. The remains of the fort are still visible, but the chain has long since disappeared, though it is said to be still defended by blockhouses and ordnance. It has a fine large old church, a free-school, and a public hospital. This place flourished greatly in former times, by naval wars and piracies; and the Fowey ships are said to have refused to strike as they sailed by some of the cinque ports, upon which they were attacked, but having defeated the assailants, the inhabitants gained the honourable appellation of *The Gallants of Fowey*; and the town, as a memorial of her triumph, quartered the arms of the cinque ports with their own. This town is, indeed, a member of the cinque ports, having obtained that privilege from King Edward the Third, for succouring certain ships belonging to Rye that were in distress. It has still a considerable share in the fishing trade, especially that of pilchards.

SALTASH is about two hundred and twenty miles from London, being the first town in the county. It was incorporated by a charter of King Charles the Second, and is governed by a mayor and six aldermen, who are styled the council of the borough, and, with the burgeses, may chuse a recorder. In this corporation the manor of the borough is vested; and on the payment of eighteen pounds a year, it has all the tolls of the markets and fairs. Saltash is situated on the declivity of a steep hill, not more than three miles from Plymouth-Dock, to which there is a ferry over the Tamar, called the Crimble Passage. The church of this town is a chapel of ease to the parish of St. Stephen, in which it stands. It has an handsome market-house and town-house, with a free-school. This town belongs to the honour of Tidmorton Castle, from which it derives many large privileges over its haven, viz. a court of admiralty, a yearly revenue

venue from its own boats and barges, anchorage and soilage from all foreign vessels, the profits of the Crimble ferry, and the right of dragging for oysters, except between Candlemas and Easter, with a coroner's inquest, &c. The harbour will receive ships of any burthen; and the inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in malt and beer; they also furnish the inhabitants of Plymouth Dock with almost all the necessaries that are sold at market; for they chuse rather to go by water to Saltash market, in the town-boat, than to Plymouth, because provisions are much cheaper at Saltash than Plymouth, and because the boat, without any additional expence, brings home what they buy. There are some merchants in this place who have ships that of late years have used the Newfoundland fishery.

TRURO is two hundred and fifty-one miles from London, and is so called because it consists chiefly of three streets, as the Cornish word *Truru* signifies. It was first incorporated by King John, since by Queen Elizabeth, and is now governed by a mayor, four aldermen, and a recorder. The mayor of this place is also mayor of Falmouth, and the quayage of goods laden or unladen there belongs to this town. When the mayor is elected, he is obliged by custom to deliver up his mace to the lord of the manor, till sixpence is paid for every house in the town, and then it is re-delivered by the lord's steward to the mayor again. Truro is situated near the conflux of two small rivers, which almost surround it, and form a large wharf, with a commodious quay for vessels of about an hundred tons. The streets are regular, and the church, which is a large Gothic building, is not inferior to any in the county. The chief trade consists in shipping off tin and copper ore. The copper abounds between this town and St. Michael's, and the works are greatly improved since the erection of the copper mills near Bristol.

PENRYN is two hundred and sixty-one miles from London, and having been incorporated by King James the First, is governed by a mayor, eleven aldermen, and a common-council of twelve, with a recorder and other officers, who are invested with a power to try felons in their jurisdiction. Penryn is situated upon a hill at the entrance of Falmouth harbour, near Pendennis castle, and has so many gardens and orchards



chards that it looks like a town in a wood. It is well watered with rivulets, and has an arm of the sea on each side of it, with a good custom-house, quay, and other neat buildings. In this town are the ruins of a collegiate church, founded by Brancomb, Bishop of Exeter, consisting of a tower, and part of the garden walls. There is also a free-school here, founded by Queen Elizabeth, a prison, and a guildhall. Penryn is inhabited by many merchants, who carry on a considerable trade in catching, drying, and vending pilchards, and in the Newfoundland fishery.

ST. IVES is two hundred and seventy-four miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, twelve capital and twenty-four inferior burgessees, with a recorder and town-clerk. St. Ives was an harbour in the Irish sea, but it now almost choaked up with sand, the coast from this place to the Land's End being a long tract of sand banks, so that the people have been more than once forced to remove. The town is now small, but has a handsome church, which, however, is but a chapel to the parish of Uni-Lelant, and stands so near the sea that the waves often break against it. The bay, called St. Ives Bay, which receives the river Hêl, is remarkable for a prodigious quantity of fine light sand, which renders this bay almost useless, the wind raising the sand into clouds, with which the country, sometimes for a mile or two round about, is, as it were, perfectly overwhelmed. It is remarkable also for its fine black marble pebbles, with which it so much abounds, that the streets of St. Ives are paved with them, and as they are very smooth and slippery, it is not only troublesome, but dangerous, to walk about the town in rainy weather. The land between St. Ives and Mount's Bay, is not above four miles over, and is so situated that neither the British nor St. George's Channel is distant above three miles; and from the hill the islands of Scilly may be seen in a clear day, though they are distant above thirty miles. The inhabitants, before the harbour was ruined by the sands, which the north-west wind, to which it is much exposed, heaps upon it, carried on a considerable trade in pilchards and Cornish slate, and had twenty or thirty ships belonging to the harbour, the number of which is now greatly reduced.

WEST LOOE and EAST LOOE, so called from their situation on each side of the river Looe, or Low, are two hundred and

and thirty-two miles from London, and joined together by a stone bridge of fifteen arches. They were both incorporated by Queen Elizabeth. West Looe is governed by twelve burgesſes, and Eaſt Looe by nine burgesſes, one of which is annually choſen mayor, with a court of aldermen and recorder.—The manor of Eaſt Looe is held by the corporation of the dutchy of Cornwall, at the annual rent of twenty ſhillings. The church is a chapel of eaſe to the pariſh of St. Martin's, in which the town ſtands. The town has a wall next to the ſea, with a battery of four guns, and the inhabitants carry on ſome trade in pilchards.—Weſt Looe, which is alſo called Port Pigham, holds the manor of the dutchy, at the rent of twenty-four ſhillings a year. It had formerly a chapel of eaſe to the pariſh of Talland, but that has ſince been converted into a town-hall, and the inhabitants go to Talland to church. The harbour is commodious, though not large, and the river is navigable for veſſels of one hundred tons.

ST. GERMAN's derives its name from *St. Germanus*, a biſhop of Burgundy, who came over hither to ſuppreſs Pelagianiſm. It is two hundred and twenty-three miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, who is alſo bailiff of the borough, and may make any houſe in it the priſon of the perſon he arreſts. The mayor is aſſiſted by inferior magiſtrates; but the place is mean, conſiſting only of a few fiſhermen's cottages, built upon an irregular rock, in form of an amphitheatre, waſhed by the river Tide, which abounds with oysters. It was once a biſhop's ſee, and the ruins of the episcopal palace are yet viſible at Cuttenbeck, about a mile and a half diſtant from the town. The church is large, and not ill built, with an episcopal chair, and ſtalls for the prebends. Here is a free-school and a ſeſſions-houſe.—The pariſh in which the town ſtands, which is alſo called St. German's, is the largeſt in the county, being twenty miles in compaſs, and containing ſeventeen villages. It is ſuppoſed to include more gentlemen's ſeats and lordſhips than any other pariſh in England.

ST. MAWS is two hundred and ſixty-seven miles from London, and has a caſtle called St. Maws Caſtle; which, with Pendennis Caſtle, was built for the ſecurity of Falmouth haven. The caſtle has a governor, a deputy, and two gunners, with a platform of guns; but the town is a wretched



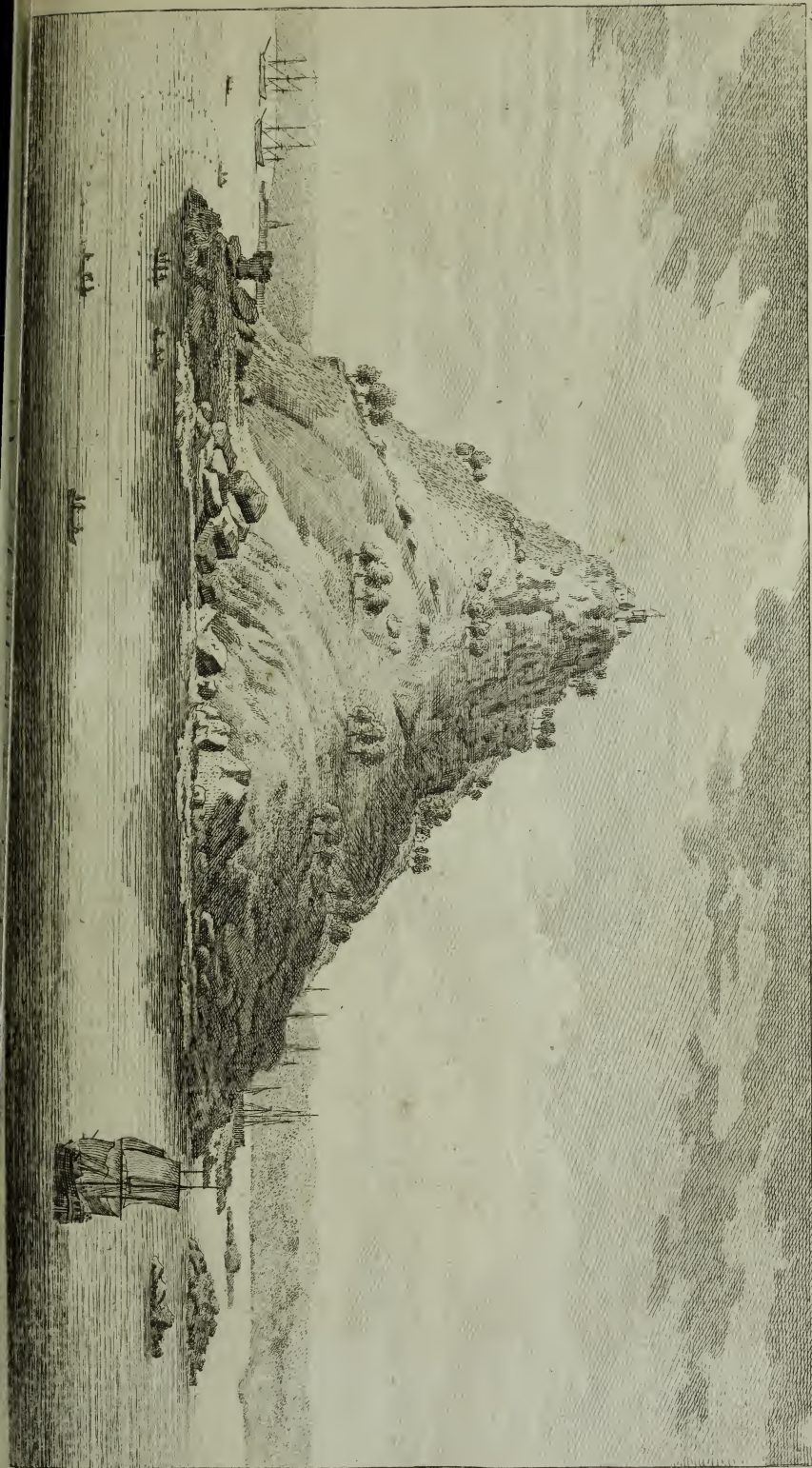
hamlet in the parish of St. Just, without either church, chapel, or meeting-house. It consists but of one street, which is built under a hill, and fronting the sea. The inhabitants subsist entirely by fishing, yet they send two members to parliament.

ST. MICHAEL'S is two hundred and forty-seven miles from London, and is governed by a portreeve, who is annually chosen by a jury of the chief inhabitants, out of six chief tenants, who are called deputy lords of the manor, because they hold lands in the borough. It is now a mean hamlet to the parishes of Newland and St. Enidore; and, though a borough, has no market. It consists of but few houses, inhabited by poor people, who have neither trade nor privilege, but that of sending two members to parliament.

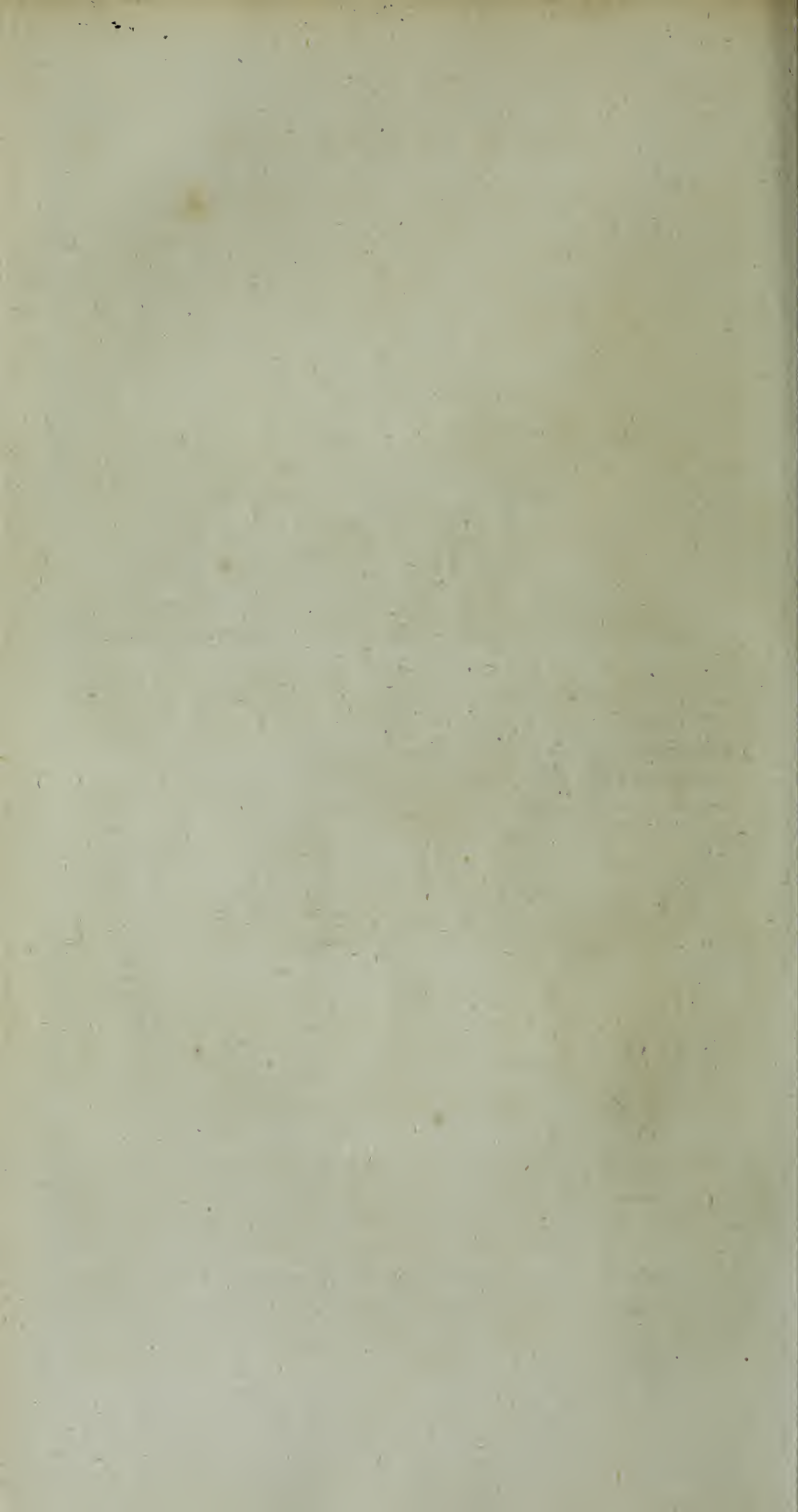
*St. Michael's Mount*, in the corner of Mount's Bay, is a pretty high rock, only divided by the tide from the main land, so that it is land and island twice a day. At the bottom of this mount, in digging for tin, there have been found spear-heads, battle-axes, and swords of brass, all wrapped up in linen. The coast is contracted here into a sort of isthmus, so that it is scarcely four miles between the channel and the Severn sea. There have been large trees driven in by the sea, between this mount and Penzance. At the foot of the mount, is a noble and capacious pier or mole, where a great number of ships may be cleared and refitted.

PADSTOW is two hundred and forty-three miles from London, and is a corporation, governed by a mayor and other officers, and is situated on the river Camel, in the Bristol channel: the harbour is the best in the north part of the county, and capable of receiving many ships of great burthen, but it cannot be entered without danger, except by a very skilful pilot, as there are rocks on the east side, and banks of sand on the west. The principal trade of this place is in slate tiles and in the herring fishery. From this place to St. Ives is a very pleasant and fruitful country, with hills, producing tin, copper, and lead, which are all carried to the South Seas.

PENZANCE is situated at the bottom of Mount's Bay, and is two hundred and seventy-six miles from London. It is well built and populous, and has many ships, in which a considerable







siderable trade is carried on. This place was burnt by the Spaniards in the year 1595, but soon rebuilt, and made one of the coinage towns. It lies in the parish of Madern, which is noted for its restorative spring, it being said to be very effectual in curing lameness; as also in removing divers chronic diseases. This part of the shore abounds so with tin, lead, and copper ore, that the veins thereof appear on the utmost extent of land at low water mark.

CALLINGTON is two hundred and fifteen miles from London, and though it has no charter of incorporation, is governed by a portreeve, who is annually chosen at the court-leet of the lord of the manor. It is situated on the river Lynher, and is greatly superior to the majority of Cornish boroughs. It consists of one good broad street, in which there is a chapel of ease to the parish of Southill, and a market-house. Its chief trade is the woollen manufacture.

GRAMPONT, or GRAMPOUND, is two hundred and forty-three miles from London, and is a corporation, governed by a mayor, eight aldermen, a recorder, and town-clerk. It has a bridge over the river Fal, and consists only of one street; it has a chapel of ease to the parish church, which is at Creed, about a quarter of a mile distant from the town. The corporation is endowed with several considerable privileges, particularly freedom from all tolls throughout the county, which are held of the dutchy, at the annual rent of twelve guineas. The inhabitants carry on a considerable manufacture of gloves.

CAMELFORD is two hundred and twenty-eight miles from London, and has its name from the *ford* over the river *Camel*. It is said to have been incorporated by King Charles the First, and is governed by a mayor, eight aldermen, a recorder, and town-clerk. The town is small, and the inhabitants few.

ST. COLUMB MAJOR is so called from a church which was built here, and dedicated to St. Columba. It is two hundred and forty-nine miles from London, and is an inconsiderable place; yet the justices for the south division keep their sessions and hold a court here once in three weeks to determine all suits where the cause of action does not exceed forty shillings.



BOSCASTLE, originally called BOTTEREUX-CASTLE, from a castle built here by the ancestors of the family of that name, is two hundred and thirty miles from London, and was formerly a place of considerable note, but is now a mean place, though a market-town. The ruins of the castle are still to be seen.

MARKET JEW, or, as it is sometimes called MARAZION, is two hundred and eighty-six miles from London. It is an inconsiderable place, stands upon a bay called Mount's Bay, and has an harbour which is neither commodious nor safe.

MOUSEHOLE is two hundred and ninety miles from London, is situated on Mount's Bay, and is a harbour for fishing boats. It was formerly called Port-Inis, or the Port of the Island, because there is a little island before it, called St. Clement's.

NEWPORT, though it is included in Launceston, must be distinguished from it, as it still retains its privilege of sending members to parliament.

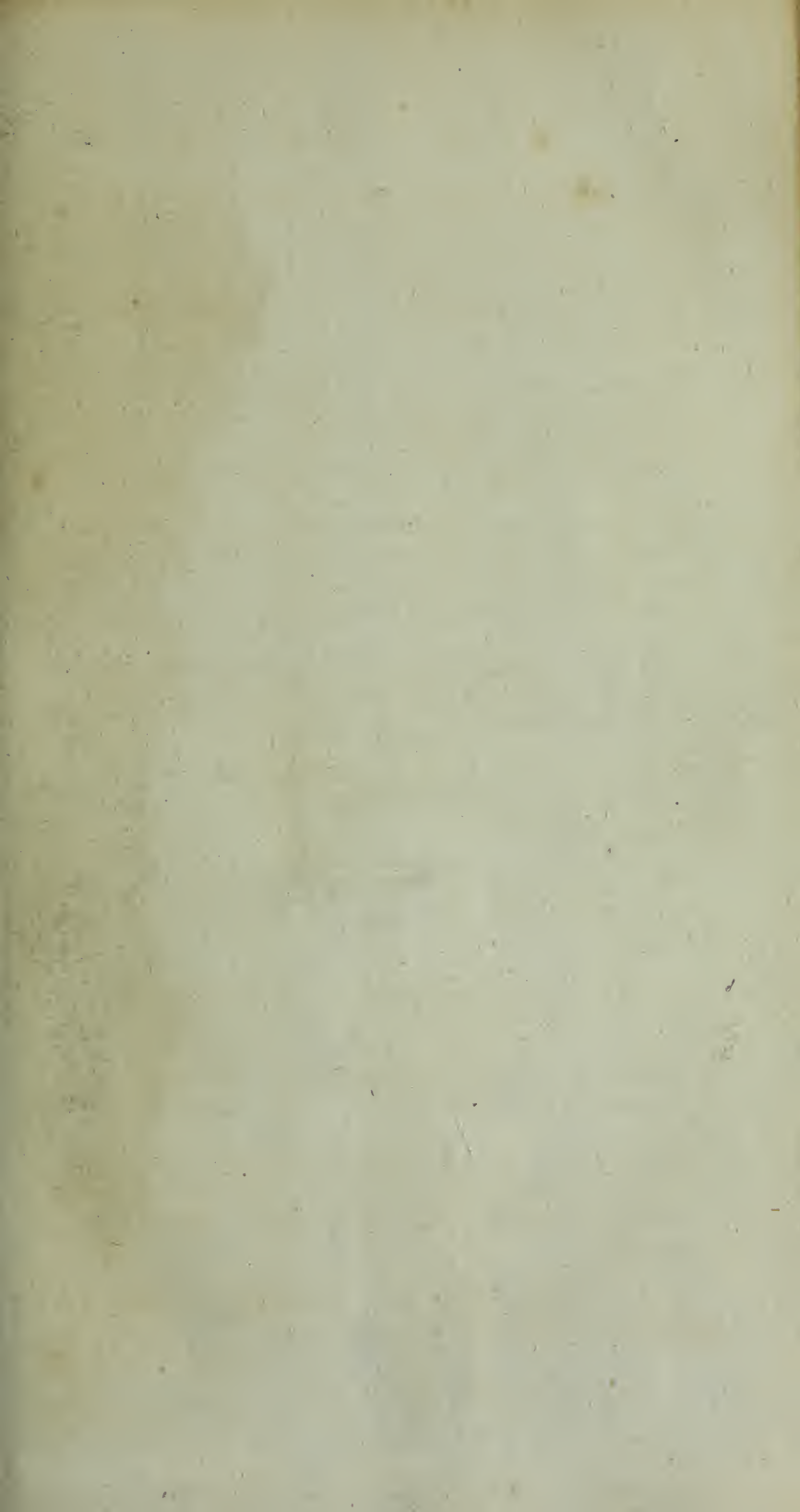
REDRUTH is two hundred and sixty miles from London, and as it lies in the midst of the mines, is made populous by the resort of the tanners.

STRATTON is two hundred and twenty-two miles from London, and is only remarkable for its orchards, gardens, and garlick.

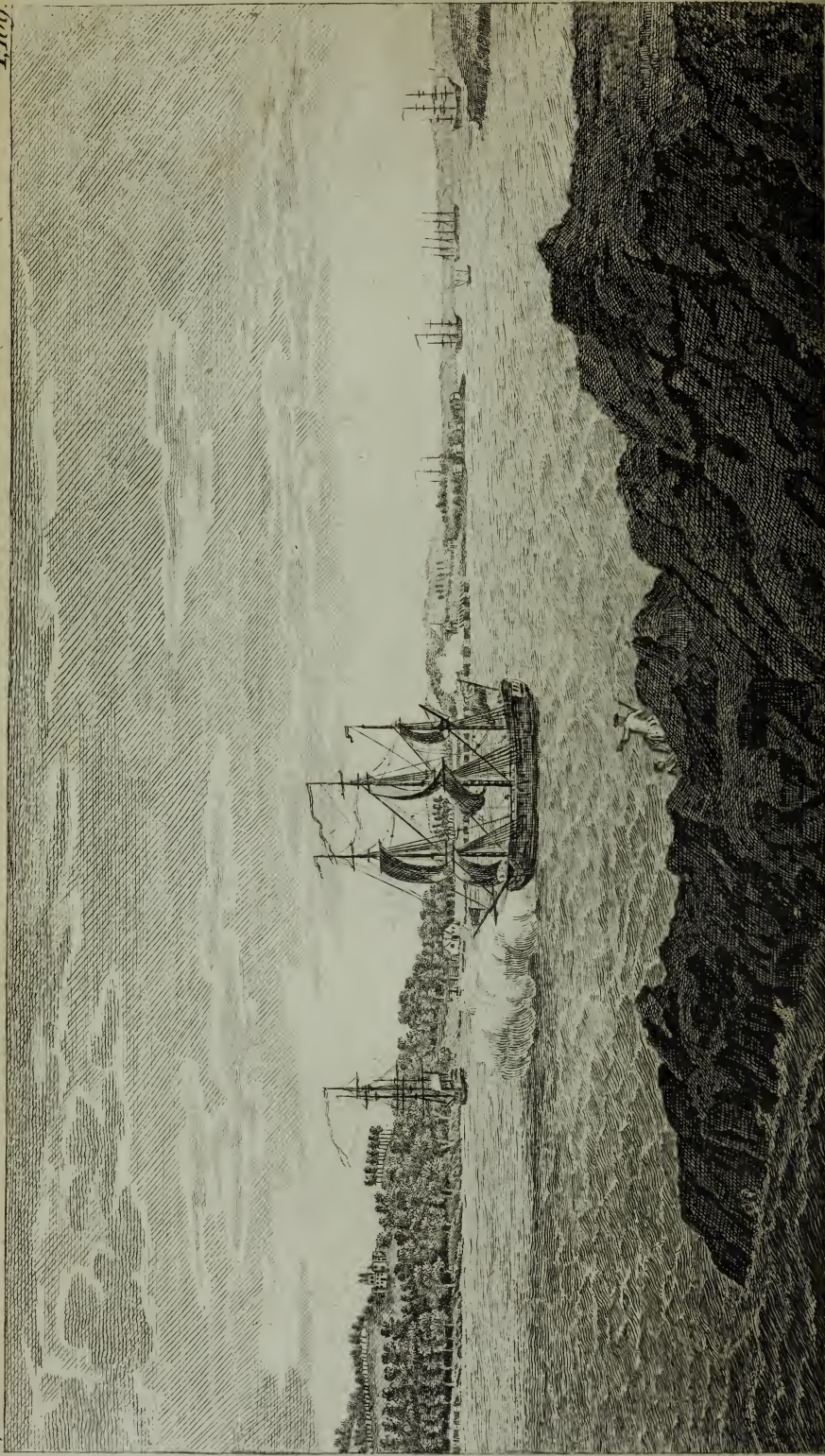
TREGONY is two hundred and fifty-six miles from London, and was incorporated by King James the First. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, and burgeses. It stands on the river Fal, which is navigable to this place from Falmouth. The chief manufacture is serge.

WADEBRIDGE is two hundred and forty-one miles from London, and derives its name from a bridge over the Camel, of which an account has already been given in the description of that river.

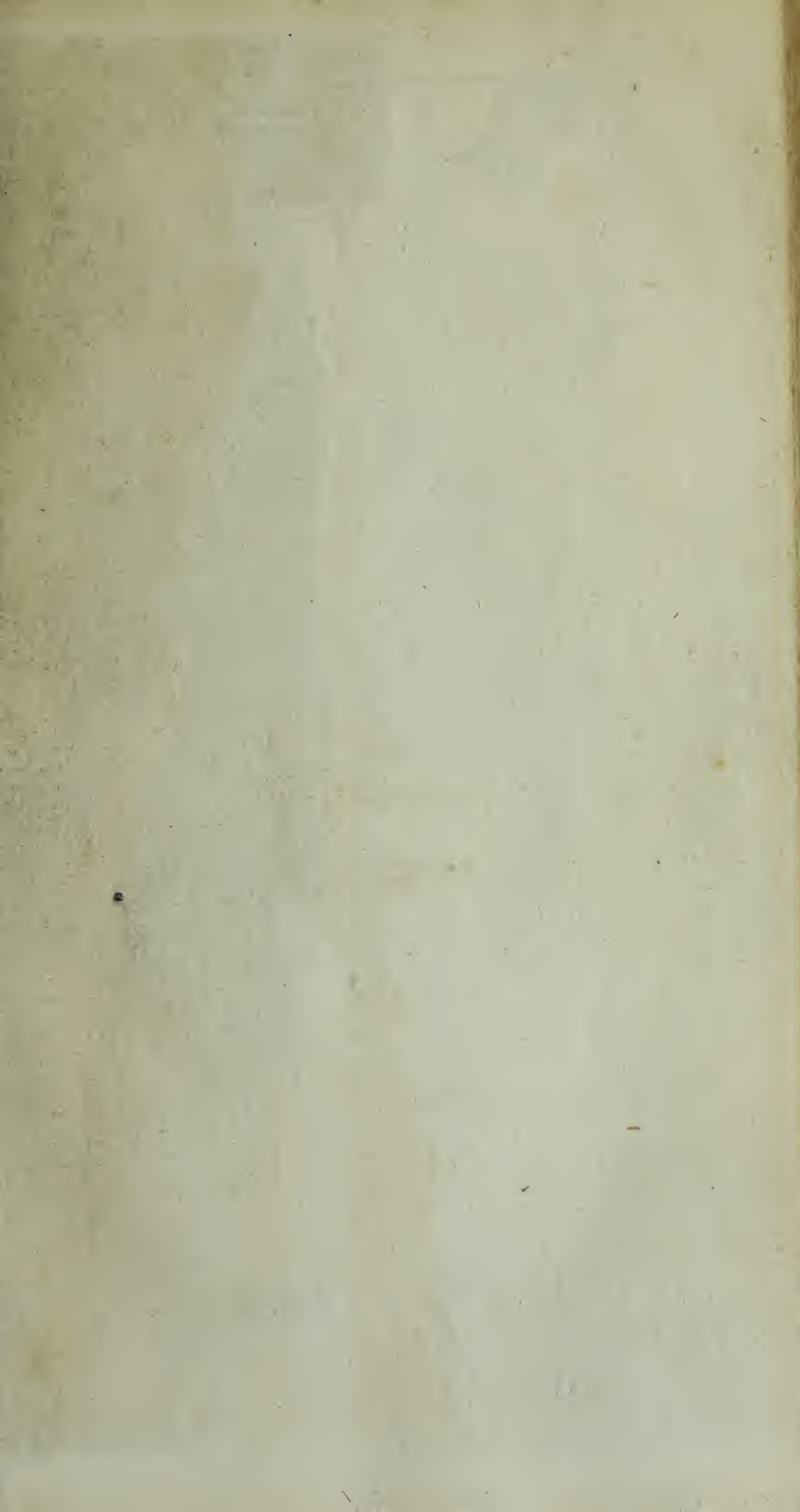
ST. AUSTLE lies on the north of Grampound, and is two hundred and thirty-six miles from London.



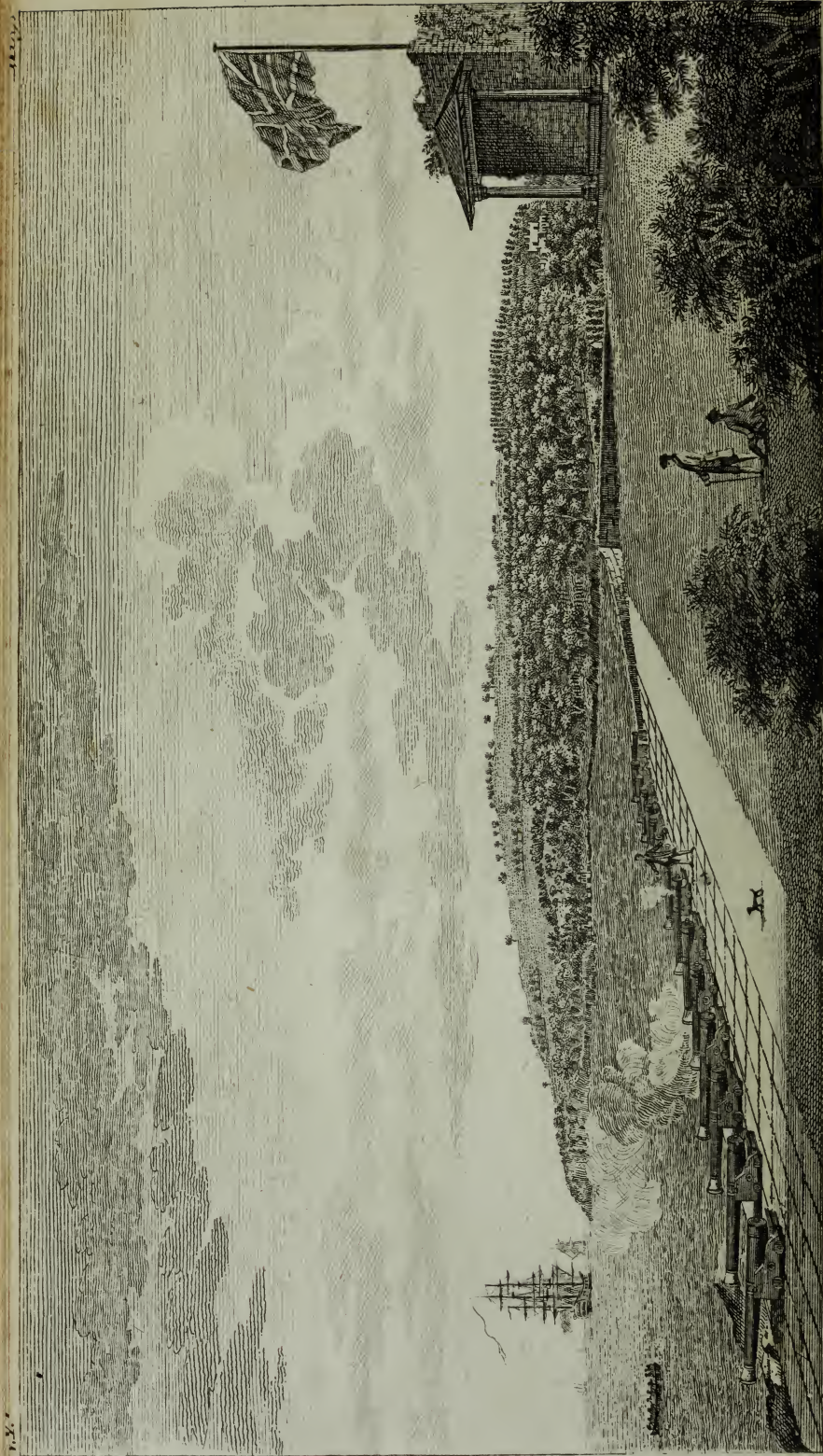




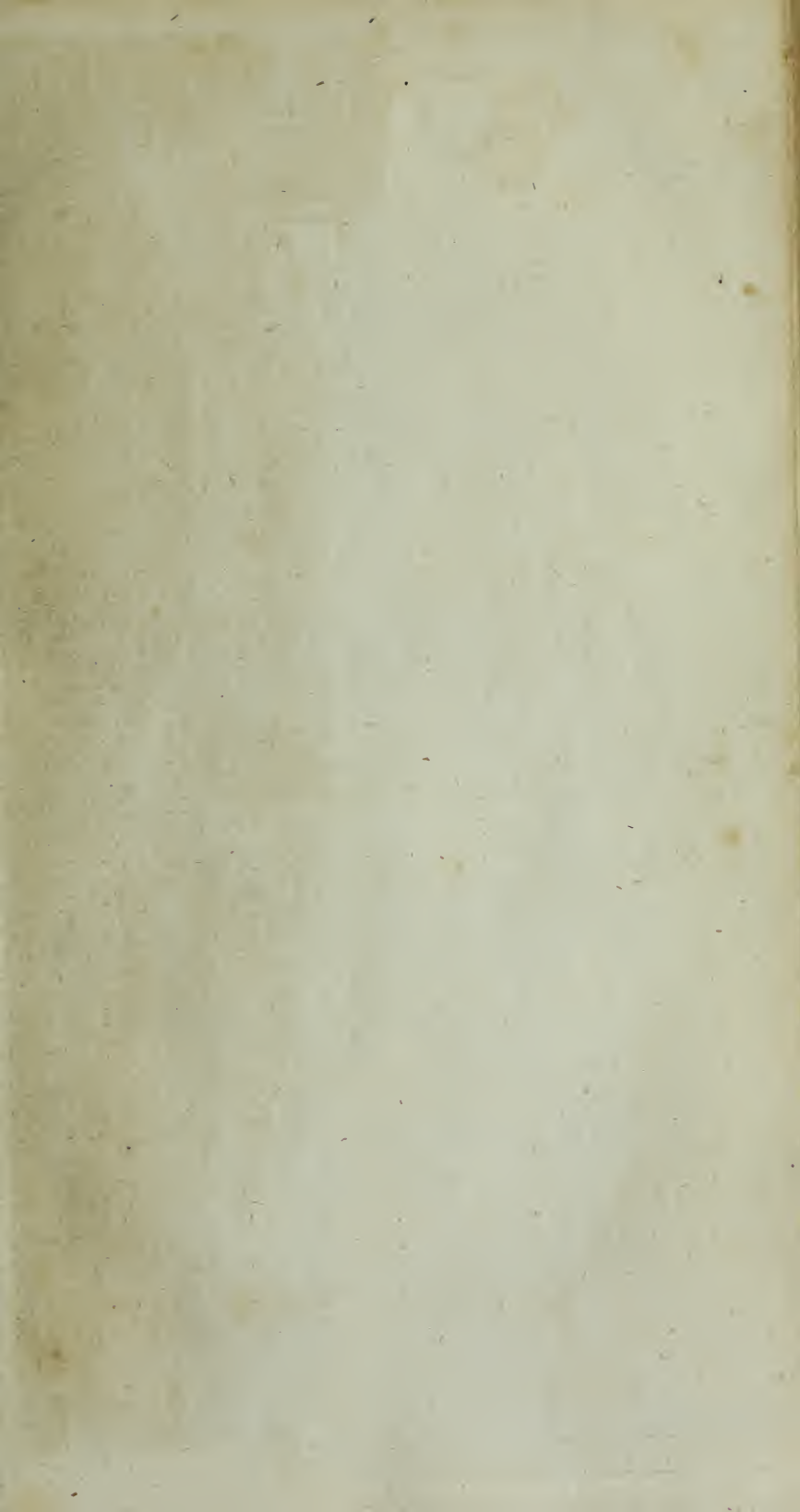
*A View of Mount Edzards from St. Nicholas Island.*



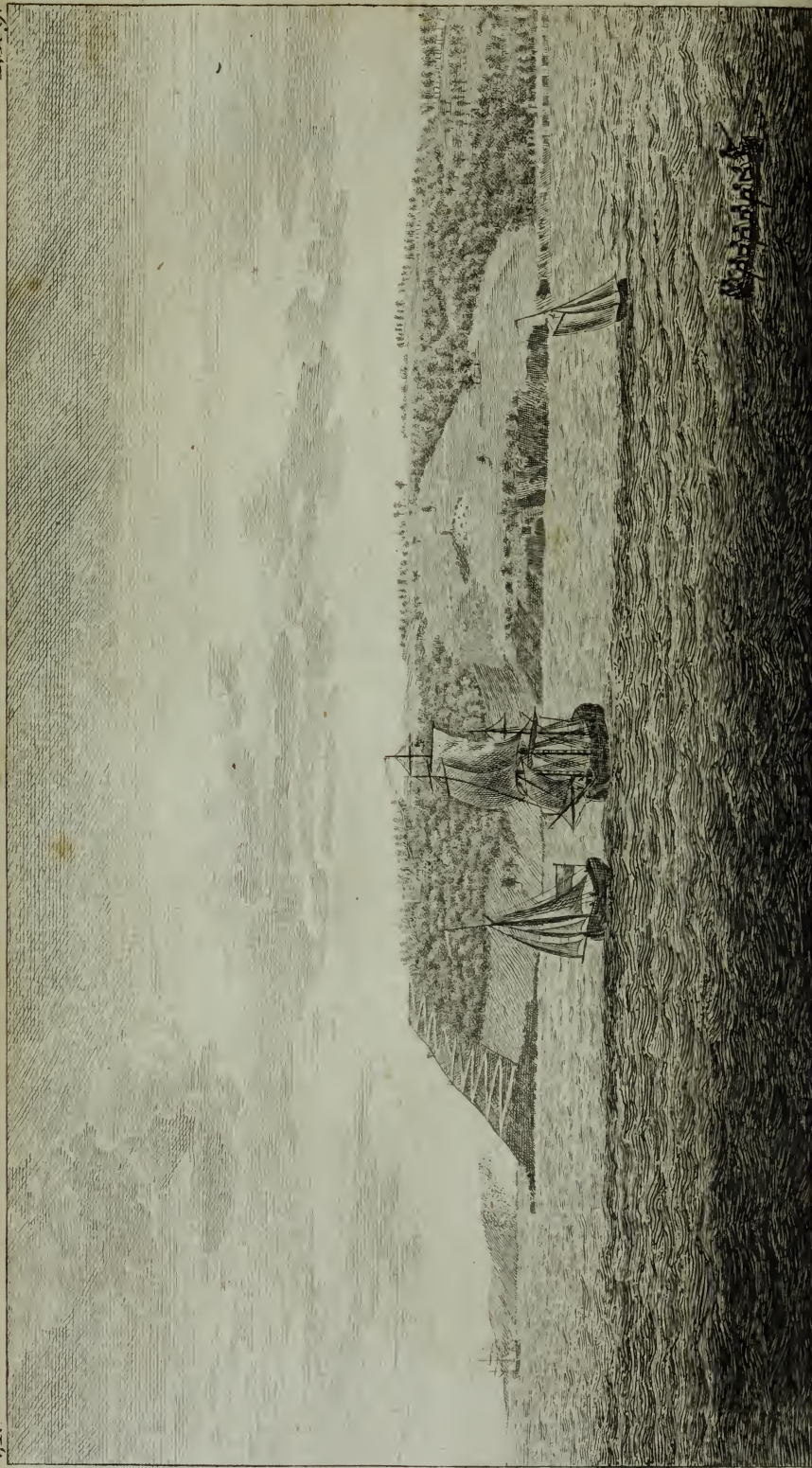




A View of Mount Edgercombe from the Block House







. A View of Mount Edgumbe from the Sea.

## S C I L L Y I S L A N D S.

THE ISLANDS OF SCILLY have always been deemed part of Cornwall. They are about one hundred and forty small islands, that lie near sixty miles distant from the Land's End, and are supposed to have been separated from it, and from each other, by some violent eruption of the sea, which is from forty to sixty fathom deep all about them. The largest and most fruitful is nine miles in circumference; it is called *St. Mary's*, and has a good harbour, with a castle that was built by Queen Elizabeth. Another of them is called *The Island of Scilly*, from which the rocks took their name. These, and some others, stand high, and bear good corn, with fine pasture, abounding also with rabbits, and cranes, herons, swans, and other water fowl.

As these islands lie in the middle, between the Bristol Channel on the north, and the English Channel on the south, they have proved fatal to innumerable ships, notwithstanding light-houses have been erected, and every other method taken to prevent it.

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## REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &amp;c.

*Mount Edgcumbe*, near Plymouth is the seat of Lord Edgcumbe. It is built in a pleasant romantic manner, and affords an unbounded prospect over the adjacent country, as well as the sea. It is adorned with many fine paintings, and the gardens are laid out in a very elegant manner.

About five miles from Saltash, on the right side of the river Tamar, is the seat of Thomas Tillie, Esq. It is a most beautiful place, with fine gardens on the banks of the river.

*Anthony*, in the neighbourhood of Mount Edgcumbe, is a seat belonging to the Carew family. Here is a noble fish-pond, supplied with water from the sea.

*Arwenack*, near Penryn, is the seat of the Killebrew family; *Godolphin* is the seat of the Earl of Godolphin; and *Bocannock*, five miles from Liskeard, was the seat of the late Lord



Lord Mohun, but now of Thomas Pitt, Esq. brother to the late celebrated Earl of Chatham.

*St. Burien*, or *St. Berian*, is so called from a religious lady of that name, who is said to have come over from Ireland in the sixth century, along with some of the disciples of St. Patrick, and who built a church here. In the reign of Athelstan, King of the West Saxons, this old church was taken down, and a collegiate church for a dean and canons erected in its stead, which remained till the dissolution of monasteries in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. The church is still remaining, but the convent was utterly demolished during the civil war. In the church are several ancient monuments, amongst which is one of curious workmanship, in the form of a coffin, to the memory of Clarice, the wife of Geoffrey de Bolleit, who enjoyed a manor in this parish in the reign of King Henry the Third.—In this parish is *Karn Boscawen*, a stone monument, consisting of one large flat stone, one end of which rests upon the natural rock, and the other end on three large stones, placed one upon another, in order to raise a proper support for the weight of the horizontal stone. Between this canopy and its supporters, there is an opening seven feet wide at the top, but closing gradually into an acute angle at the bottom. The top stone is too nicely supported to be the work of nature, and the opening underneath it is supposed to have been designed for the seat of some chief priest among the Druids, from whence he might issue his edicts and decisions, his predictions and admissions to noviciates; and, indeed, the mind can hardly frame to itself a scene more awful and striking than this, which consists of vast rocks on either side, above and below, fronting an immense ocean.

In this county there have been several rocking stones, or logan stones, as they are called in Cornwall, some of which are supposed to be natural, and some artificial.

Near the southermost point of the Land's End, there is a promontory, called *Castle Treryn*, which consists of three distinct piles of rock. On the western side of the middle pile, near the top, lies a very large stone, so evenly poised, that any hand may rock it; and yet the extremities of its base are at such a distance from each other, and so well secured, that it is impossible

impossible any lever, or indeed any force, however applied in a mechanical way, could remove it from its present situation.

There is a very remarkable stone of this kind on the island of *St. Agnes*, in Scilly. It is supported by a rock which is ten feet six inches high, forty-seven feet in circumference round the middle, and touches the ground with no more than half its base. The rocking stone rests on one point only, and is so nicely poised, that two or three men with a pole can move it. It is eight feet six inches high, and forty-seven feet in girt, and has a large basin eleven feet in diameter, and three feet deep at the top.

In the parish of *Sithny*, near Helston, stood a famous logan stone, commonly called *Mên Amber*. It is eleven feet long, twenty-four in girt, and was so nicely poised, that the least force could move it; but in the time of Oliver Cromwell it was undermined and thrown down by order of the governor of Pendennis.

There are some more of these stones in the county. They are with great reason supposed to be Druid monuments, but to what peculiar use they were applied is not certain.

In Cornwall, on almost every plain, as well as on the tops of hills, are still to be seen great numbers of those artificial heaps of earth or stone, which are at present called *Barrows*, and are monuments of the remotest antiquity, and oftentimes of the highest dignity. They were originally intended for the more secure protection of the remains of the dead, though afterwards they were raised to answer other purposes. Barrows are found in most countries; but in Britain, and the British isles, they are very numerous, occasioned by the practice of the Druids, who burnt, and then buried their dead. The materials of which barrows consist, are either a multitude of small or great stones, earth alone, or stones and earth mixed together, and forming a little hill, which was called by the Romans *Tumulus*.

An earthen barrow, of a wide circumference, and about five feet high, situated in a field at *Trelowarren*, not far from Helston, was opened in July 1751. As the workmen had dug  
half



half way to the bottom, they found a parcel of stones set in some order, which being removed, a cavity was discovered in the middle of the barrow, about two feet in diameter, and of equal height. It was surrounded and covered with stones, and inclosed human bones of all sorts, intermixed with wood ashes. At the distance of a few feet from this central cavity, there were found two urns, one on each side, with their mouths turned downwards, and inclosing small bones and ashes; and among the earth of the barrow were found three thin pieces of brass, supposed to have been pieces of a sword, or some other instrument, which, after having been put upon the funeral pile and broke, was thrown into the barrow, among the earth and other materials that were heaped together.

*St. Just* and *Morva* are two inconsiderable villages, but contain many Roman and British antiquities.

Between *Falmouth* and *Helston* is a Druidical monument, consisting of one vast oval pebble, placed on the points of two natural rocks, so that a man might creep under the incumbent rock, and between its two supporters, through a passage about three feet wide, and as many high. The longest diameter of the incumbent stone, which points due north and south, is thirty-three feet, the circumference is ninety-seven feet, and sixty feet cross the middle, and it is thought to be seven hundred and fifty tons weight at least. On the top, the whole surface is wrought into basons, and resembles an imperfect or mutilated honey-comb. Most of these basons discharge their contents into two principal basons, one at the south, and the other at the north end of the rock.

There are two other Tol-men of the same structure, though not quite so large, in the Scilly Islands, one on *St. Mary's Islands*, on the bottom of Salakee Downs, and the other in the little island of *Northwethel*; and each is situated on the decline of a hill, near a large pile of rocks.

Near *Madern*, north of Penzance, there are three stones standing erect on a triangular plan. One of them is thin and flat, and fixed on the ground on its edge; in the middle of it is a large hole about fourteen inches diameter, whence it is called *Men an Tol*, which in the Cornish language signifies  
the

the holed stone. Each of the other two stones is a rude pillar about four feet high, and near one of them is a stone lying like a cushion or pillar, as if to kneel upon. To what particular rite or superstition this monument was appropriated is uncertain, but the country people in its neighbourhood, even at this day, creep through the holed stone for pains in their backs and limbs; young children are drawn through to cure them of the rickets; and it serves also as an oracular monument, to inform them of some material incident of love or fortune.

Of the same kind there are many other stones, in different parts of the county; and here are many rocks of such grandeur, remarkable shape, and surprising position, as leave no room to doubt but that they must be deities of the Druids, a people much addicted to the superstition of worshipping rocks.

Near the village of *St. Cleere*, is a pile of rocks, placed one over another, and called *Wringcheese*, from the resemblance of some of them to large cheeses pressed by the superincumbent weight. This pile, which attracts the admiration of all travellers, is thirty-two feet high. The stones, towards the top, by being many times larger than those in the middle, or nearer the foundation, project so far over the middle part, that it has been a matter of wonder how such an ill-constructed pile could subsist for many ages, the stone being of so exposed a situation. Some have judged this an artificial structure, though most writers are of opinion it is a natural one. The top stone is said to have been formerly a logan or rocking stone, which, when it was entire, might be easily moved with a pole, but now great part of that weight, which kept one end of it in an equipoise with the other, is taken away, whence it becomes immoveable. On the top are two irregular basons, but part of one of them is broke off. This structure is also judged to have been one of the rock deities of the Druids.

Among the most ancient of British monuments are the circles of erect stones, of which there are many in Cornwall, and which the best antiquarians judge to have been Druid temples. That these temples were erected by the Druids, before the Romans came into this island, appears evident, from many of them being crossed and mangled by the Roman ways; for had they been erected by the Romans themselves, that people



would never have disfigured their own work. Besides, they must have been prior to the Romans, since the Druids, in the time of the Romans, would never be suffered to obstruct the highways of their lords and masters. And this must naturally lead to another conclusion equally evident, which is, that as they could not be Roman works, because prior to the Roman ways, so neither could they have been of Danish or Saxon construction, and therefore can justly be ascribed to none but the Druids.

At *Kerris*, in the parish of *Paul*, not far from Penzance, there is an oval inclosure, called *Roundago*, which is fifty-two paces from north to south, and thirty-four from east to west. At the southern extremity stands four rude pillars, about eight feet high, at the foot of which lie some large stones, which are supposed to have formerly rested on those pillars.

On a rock adjoining to a place called *The Giant's Castle*, in the island of *St. Mary*, in Scilly, is an area of a circular figure, which is one hundred and seventy-two feet from north to south, and one hundred and thirty-eight from east to west. On the edges of the rock are nine vast stones still remaining, planted in a circular line; several others perfected the round, but from time to time have been removed. This was a great work of its kind: the floor is of one rock; the stones round the edges are of an extraordinary size.

There is in the island of *Trescow*, in Scilly, a circle of stones, together with an altar. The altar consists of one rude stone, nineteen feet long, and shelving on the top; round the bottom there is an hollow circular trench thirty-six feet in diameter, and the brim of the trench is edged with a line of rude and unequal stones.

Another of these circles is on an high hill called *Karn Menelez*, in the wilds of *Weldron*, not far from *Penryn*. The altar consists of four large thin stones, placed one over another; the upper stone is circular, and the diameter nineteen feet; it has a circular trench at the bottom, the diameter of which is thirty-five feet and an half.

But

But all these monuments of the circular kind were not appropriated to the purposes of religion ; some appear to have been intended for assemblies in which elections were held ; others for theatres for sports, plays, and entertainments : and where these stone inclosures are semi-circular, and distinguished by seats and benches of the same materials, there is no doubt but they were designed for the exhibition of plays. There are several theatres of this kind in different parts of Britain ; but though this form is best adapted for the instruction and information of the audience, yet as they cannot be supposed, in those illiterate times, to have consulted the delight and instruction of the ear so much as the pleasure and entertainment of the eye, it is not so commonly met with among the remains of antiquity as the amphitheatrical form, which being more capacious, had generally the preference of the former. In these amphitheatres of stone, not broken as the circles of erect stones, the Britons usually assembled to hear plays acted, and to see sports and games. Of these circles there are a great number in Cornwall, where they are called *plananguare*, which signifies a plain of sport and pastime. The benches round were generally of turf, but there are some in Cornwall, the benches of which are of stone. The most remarkable monument of this kind is near the church of *St. Just*, north-west of Penzance, not far from the Land's End. By the remains it seems to have been a work of more than usual labour and correctness. It was an exact circle of one hundred and twenty-six feet diameter ; the perpendicular height of the bank from the area within, is now seven feet, but the height from the bottom of the ditch without, ten feet. The seat consists of six steps, fourteen inches wide, and a foot high, with one on the top of all, where the rampart is about seven feet wide. In these cirques were also performed all their athletic exercises, for which the Cornish Britons are still remarkable ; and when any single combat was to be fought on foot, no places so proper as one of these circles. The cirques whether open or inclosed, were also often sepulchral ; for in, or adjoining to the edge of these circular monuments, are sometimes found stone chests and cromlechs, and at other times sepulchral urns or barrows, all evident signs of burial, doubtless of persons the most illustrious of their country for knowledge, virtue, or power ; for it must not be supposed that these circles were ever the ordinary common



places of burial, it being very seldom that more than one stone cavity, barrow, or cromlech, was found in or near them, and scarce more than two, or very few urns.

Among the natural curiosities of this county, a cove, or cave, called *Kynan's Cove*, is not the least considerable. It is situated one mile and a half north-west of the Lizard Point. The way down to it from the hill is extremely rugged and narrow, being only a single track worn by the horses that carry sand. The sand of the cove, which is entered by this path, is partly of a light colour, and partly glittering; it is dispersed in many winding passages among rocks and vast masses of the cliff, which lead to different grotts of various size and figure: these rocks are washed too often by the tides to produce any cavernous plants; but at the foot of the rock many basons or baths of water, transparent as chrystal, are formed in the eddy of the waves. The crevices in the rocks, which are seldom more than the twentieth of an inch wide, are full of a smooth unctious substance, which greatly resembles beeswax, both to the sight and touch; and between the rocks on the eastern side, there are a few small veins of the white and red marble clay, which, from its resemblance to tallow, which in Greek is called *stear*, has obtained the name of *stearites*.

There are many fortifications in this county, apparently of great antiquity, but of which it is difficult to ascertain the age. At *Castle Treryn*, near the south-west part of the Land's End, there are some remains of an ancient fortification. The cape called *Tolpedn-Penwith*, about a mile and a half to the west of Castle Treryn, is divided from the main land by a stone wall; and the castles of *Karnnijek* and *Boscadjell*, in the parish of St. Just, with many others on the sea coast, are in like manner separated from the main land.

On the top of *Bartine Hill*, in the parish of St. Just, is a circular mound of earth, with little or no ditch, never of great strength, and perhaps only traced out, begun and never finished. Within this inclosure was sunk a well, now filled up with stones; and the only thing remarkable is, that near the centre of the castle are three circles, edged with stones pitched on the end, and contiguous to each other. One of them is nine yards in diameter, and the other seven.

*Caerbran*

*Caerbran*, in the parish of *Sancred*, is another circular fortification, on the top of a high hill, consisting of a deep ditch, fifteen feet wide, edged with stone; this is surrounded by a vallum of earth fifteen feet high; within this vallum is a wide ditch, about forty-five feet wide; and the top of the hill is surrounded by a stone wall, which seems to have been of considerable strength. The diameter of the whole is ninety paces; and in the centre is a small circle.—There are many others of the like kind still to be seen in Cornwall; some of which are regularly built, and walled round. These hill castles in this county are supposed to be Danish.

At the east end of *Karnbré Hill* stands a ruinous building, which, from its situation, is called *Karnbré Castle*, and is built upon a very irregular ledge of vast rocks. It is supposed to have been erected by the ancient Britons. On the west side of it is a circular fortification, called *The Old Castle*, which, from some circumstances observable in the building, is supposed to have been erected by the same people, as early as the time of the Druids.—There are the remains of another castle of the same kind in the parish of *Sancred*, called *Caerguidn*, which is also judged to have been built by the ancient Britons.

*Trematon Castle*, in the parish of *St. Stephen's*, near *Saltaſh*, was the head of a barony of the ancient Dukes of Cornwall; and though it was built before the Norman invasion, is yet the most entire ancient castle with a keep in this county. The wall of the bassecourt is still standing, and is ditched without, and pierced in several places with certain loop holes. There is no tower projecting from this wall but the gateway, which seems more modern than the rest of the building. At one end of this court is an artificial hill, at the top of which is the keep, of an oval figure. The outer wall is still standing, and is ten feet thick.

*Restormel Castle*, about a mile north of *Loſtwithiel*, was one of the principal houses of the ancient Earls of Cornwall. It stands upon a rock; the keep is very magnificent; the outer wall or rampart is an exact circle, one hundred and two feet diameter on the inside, and ten feet wide at the top; and from the floor of the ground rooms to the top of the parapet  
is



is twenty-seven feet six inches. It appears from the ruins to have been of a great extent ; and it had a park round it, well wooded, and suitable to the quality of the ancient owners.

About four miles east of Padstow, is the ancient village of *Gudelion*, where there is a fine church, which in the reign of King Edward the Third was collegiate. The church is a neat Gothic structure, and stands in the centre of a large burying ground.

In this county there are several springs, supposed to have medicinal virtues, that are not known to be tinged with any mineral. At a village called *Madern*, situated under the hills a little to the northward of Penzance, there is a well which is said to cure pains and stiffness in the limbs, by being used as a bath. Superstitious persons also resort to this well at certain times of the year, moon, and day, on a less justifiable errand : they drop pebbles or pins into the water, or shake the ground about, and from the turns which these small bodies make in sinking, or the bubbles that rise in the water, they determine by certain rules what in general will be their future fortune, or what will be the issue of an amour or other undertaking in which they may happen to be engaged.

In the island of *Sancred*, among the hills to the west of Penzance, there is another well that has been much celebrated for curing wounds and sores, and removing cutaneous eruptions. As a memorial of its virtue, a chapel was long since built near it, and dedicated to St. Euinus. The ruins of it, consisting of much carved stone, still remain, and shew that it was of considerable note.

Both the above springs rise in a grey moor-stone gravel, called in the Cornish *grouan*, and are very cold and limpid, but not mineral.

There is a third well of the same kind, called *Holy Well*, about a mile and a half to the north west of St. Cuthbert's Church. St. Cuthbert's Church is in a small sandy bay on the coast, and not far from St. Columb. In this bay there are several caves, which have been wrought into the cliff by the north sea ; and in one of these caves, at the north-east point  
of

of the bay, at the foot of a high cliff, is this well. There are some rude steps cut into the rock, which lead from the entrance, which is very low, to the height of many feet perpendicular; the water is then seen distilling from every part of the roof, and being collected in a little basin, it flows from thence in a small stream not bigger than a reed. There are several small protuberances of the alabaster kind hanging from the roof; and the floor of the rock is covered with the same substance; and there is no production of the alabaster kind in any other part of the county. The water of this well is greatly commended in fluxes, and other disorders of the bowels; but upon trying the common experiments upon it, it does not appear to contain either steel, allum, acid, salts, sulphur, or any other mineral principle.

The sports of Cornwall are wrestling and hurling. These wrestlings and hurlings are always practised on holidays, particularly on the Monday and Tuesday after the Sunday which is kept every year in memory of the dedication of the parochial church.

The tanners have some holidays peculiar to themselves, particularly the Thursday one clear week before Christmas day, which they call *Jeux-Whyden*, or *White Thursday*, in commemoration of black tin being first melted into white tin in these parts; for it was anciently the custom to export the tin ore unmelted. The tanners also keep the fifth of March, in honour of St. Piran, a saint who is said to have given their ancestors some very profitable informations relating to the tin manufacture. The tanners are indeed in many respects a community distinct from the other inhabitants of this county. They have an officer called the Lord-Warden, who is appointed to administer justice among them, with an appeal to the Duke of Cornwall, in council, or to the Crown. The Lord-Warden appoints a Vice-Warden to determine all stannary disputes every month, and he constitutes four stewards, each for a particular district, who hold courts every three weeks, and decide by juries of six, with an appeal to the Vice-Warden, from him to the Lord-Warden, and finally to the Crown. They have also a parliament, consisting of twenty-four gentlemen tanners, six to be chosen for each of the stannary divisions, by the mayor and council of the towns of such division



division respectively. The towns are Launceston, Lostwithiel, Truro, and Helston. The twenty-four persons thus chosen are called Stannators, and chuse their speaker, who is approved by the Lord-Warden. Whatever is enacted by the body of the tanners, with the subsequent assent of the Crown, is commonly understood to have all the authority, with respect to tin affairs, of an act of the whole legislature.

The most extraordinary fossils in this county are trees of various kinds and sizes, that are found at a considerable depth below the surface of the earth. In 1740, several pieces of oak, and one entire stock, about ten feet long, without branches, were found about four feet below the surface of a drained marsh, on the banks of the river Heyl, in Penwith.—In 1750, another oak, about twenty feet long and twelve inches diameter, was found at the depth of thirty feet, by a man who was digging for tin near the Land's End. The branches of this tree were full of leaves, the impression of which was left in the bed where it was found, which was the same shelly sand with that of the adjacent beach.—Near this tree was found a skeleton of an animal, supposed to be a deer; the skeleton was entire, but the horns were imperfect. The largest piece was about two feet and a half long, and about as thick as a man's wrist.—In 1753, several pieces of horns, either of the elk or deer, were found in the same place, at the depth of twenty feet.—Another sort of fossil trees have been discovered in lakes, bogs, and harbours, in whole groves together, standing perpendicularly as they grew.—There was a tradition in Cornwall, that a large tract of ground, on the edge of Mount's Bay, was a wood; and on January 10, 1757, after the sands had been drawn off the shore by a violent sea, the remains of the wood appeared; several trees, with their roots entire, were discovered, though in a horizontal posture; there were oaks, willows, and hazels. The place where these trees were found, was three hundred yards below full sea-mark, and the water was about twelve feet deep upon them when the tide was in.

The western parts of this county were on the 15th of July, 1757, shaken by an earthquake, which was violent, though it did no damage to the slightest buildings, nor even to the mines.

The

The most extraordinary phænomenon that ever appeared in the sea on this coast, was on the 1st of November, 1755, about two in the afternoon, the day on which Lisbon was destroyed by an earthquake: There was just then a dead calm, which left the vanes pointing to the north-east; the mercury in the barometer was higher than it had been known for three years before, and the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer stood at 54. The sea at St. Michael's Mount, after it had ebbed about half an hour, suddenly rose six feet, and again retired in about ten minutes: This flux and reflux continued every ten minutes for two hours and an half. It came in with great rapidity from the south-east, and ebbed away to the westward, whirling the boats that lay at the head of the pier some one way and some another. The first and second flux and reflux were not so violent as the third and fourth; for in these, and those that immediately followed, the sea was as rapid as a mill-stone descending to an undershot wheel. After about two hours, the undulations became gradually fainter, and ceased about the time of low water.

Cornwall was anciently inhabited by those Britons, whom Solinus called *Dunmonii*, and Ptolemy *Damonii*, or *Danmonii*; the name *Dunmonii*, or *Danmonii*, is by some supposed to be derived from *Moina*, a name signifying a hill of mines, given by the Britons to the tin mines, with which this county abounds; others have supposed the Roman name to be derived from *Danmonith*, a term by which the Britons distinguished the way of living in this county, where the houses are built under the hills.

The inhabitants of Cornwall have been distinguished from those of other counties, by some peculiarities, and they were till about two centuries ago, particularly distinguished by their language, a dialect of which, before the Saxon invasion, was common to all Britain; so different from the Welch and Armoric, which are two other dialects of the same language, that those who speak one of these dialects, cannot converse with those who speak another; the Cornish is less guttural, and therefore supposed to be more pleasing than the Welsh. There was nothing printed in the Cornish language till Llhuyd, the antiquary, published his Cornish Grammar; but there are



two manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, which contain several interludes, or as the author calls them, ordinalie; the subject of the first is the creation of the world; of the second, the passion of our Lord Jesus; of the third, the resurrection; and of the fourth, the deluge. There is also a Cornish vocabulary in the Cotton Library, which is printed by Mr. Borlase, at the end of the Antiquities of Cornwall. This language was so generally spoken in Cornwall, till the time of Henry the Eighth, that Dr. John Moreman, who was vicar of Menhenniot, or Menhinuick, near Launceston, in that reign, was the first who taught his parishioners the Lord's prayer, creed, and commandments in English, which now universally prevails; so that the Cornish language is not spoken in conversation in any part of the county.

There have been many ancient coins found in Cornwall, particularly a considerable number of pure gold, were dug up in the month of June, 1749, in Karnbrê Hill, near Redruth: some were worn and very much smoothed, not by age, or lying in the earth, but by use, they having no alloy to harden and secure them from wearing. There were no letters discoverable on any of them; some were plain or flat, some a little concave on one side, and convex on the other, and the largest weighed no more than four pennyweights fourteen grains. From the reverse of these coins, which was generally marked with the impression of a horse, some imagined that they were Phenician, because a few colonies of that people were said to have chosen a horse for their symbol. The place where the coins were found seemed to confirm this opinion, because Cornwall, since the first appearance of Britain in history, was celebrated for its tin, which the Phenicians, from their superior skill in navigation, for many years engrossed to themselves; but there are coins produced by antiquaries, which have been found in Britain, which are inscribed with British names, and are with the greatest probability believed to have been the coins of Princes cotemporary even with Julius Cæsar, the reverse of which have a figure of a horse. It is moreover observed, that the coins found at Karnbrê are too rude, and the designs too mean, to have been Phenician, Roman, or Grecian; that coins of all the different sorts found at Karnbrê, have been discovered in several places in Britain, and in no other country, and that those coins which are not  
inscribed,

inscribed, are most probably older than coins of the same nation which are inscribed. From all these circumstances it is reasonably concluded, that the coins found at Karnbrê are originally British, and older than the Roman invasion of this island.—In the month of July, 1749, the quantity of one pint of Roman copper coins, was dug up at the foot of Karnbrê Hill ; and a few years before, about a quart of the same coin was found near the same place.

Roman coins have been found in and near the ancient mines of this county, which must have been deposited either by the Roman miners, or by officers appointed by that nation to superintend and guard mines, which possibly the Romans might have worked by the natives.

At *Treryn*, near the Land's End, was found a brass pot full of Roman money ; and in a tenement called *Condora*, on Helford Haven, not far from Helstone, in 1735, twenty-four gallons of the Roman brass money were dug up, all which coins were of the age of the Emperor Constantine and his family, and had either the heads of those Emperors, or were of the cities of Rome or Constantinople.—On the other side of Helford Haven, opposite to Condora, were found forty Roman coins.

At *Mopas*, near Truro, not many years ago, twenty pounds weight of Roman brass coins were dug up ; and at *Tywardreth*, near Fowey, many Roman coins have been found.

In the year 1733, upon opening an ancient barrow in the tenement of *Chikarn* and the parish of *St. Just*, was discovered a great number of urns, surrounding a large square stone chest, in which also was an urn finely carved, and full of human bones. The number of urns surrounding the central and principal one, is said to be about fifty ; they all contained some bones and ashes, and were carefully placed side by side.

In the year 1714, a fine Roman urn, with a cover to it, was discovered in a hill near *Karnbrê* ; it contained some ashes and a coin, the bigness of a crown piece, with an inscription, intimating it to be a medal of Augustus Cæsar.



Near the mansion-house of *Kerris*, in the parish of St. Paul, a vault, eight feet long and six feet high, was discovered in the year 1723; the floor was paved with stone, and the roof arched with the same materials; it contained a beautiful plain urn, of the finest red clay, full of earth, with which was intermixed a considerable number of brass coins.

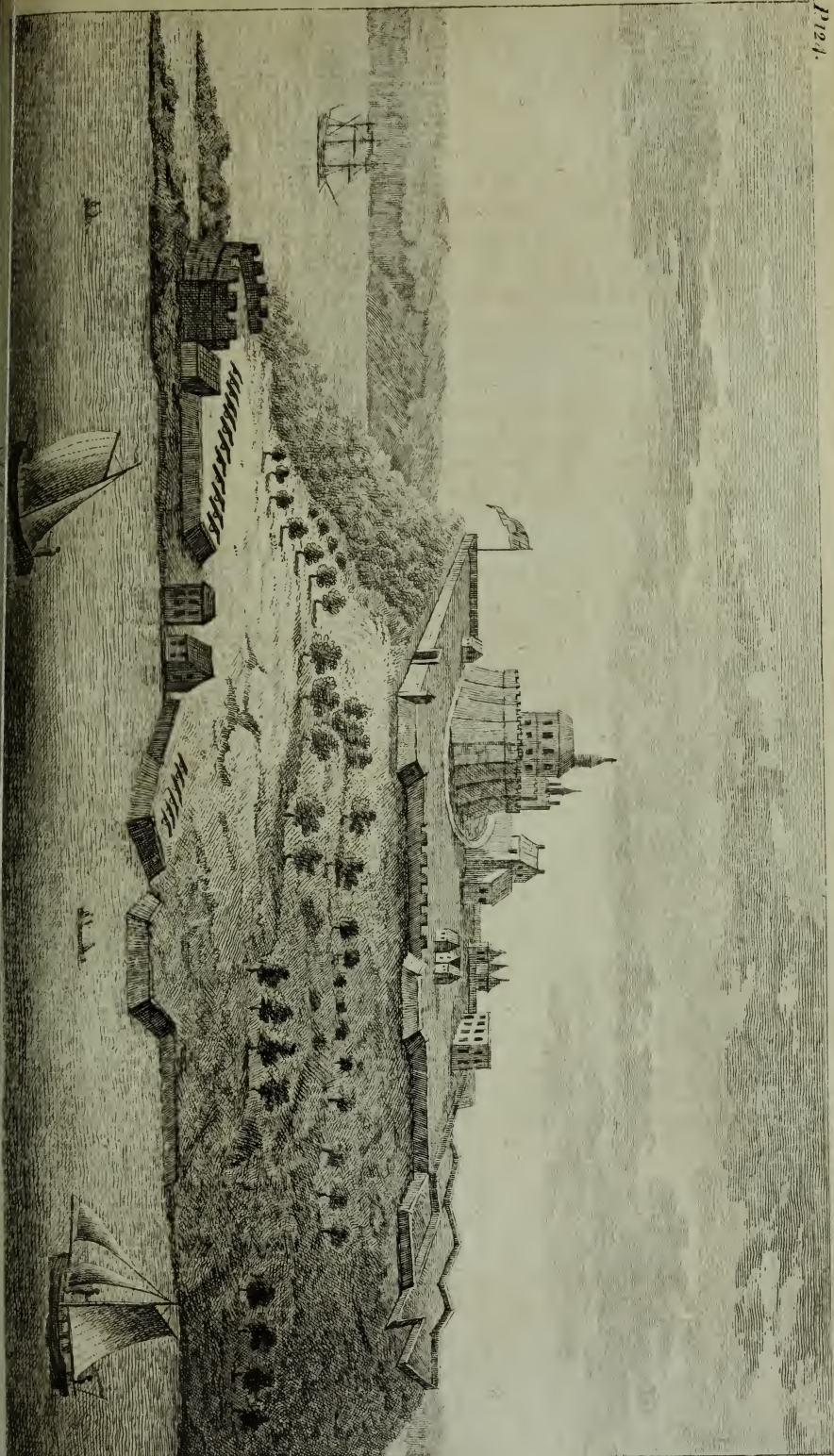
In the year 1700, some tinnerns having opened a barrow at *Golvadnek*, north of Helston, discovered a vault with a fine chequered brick pavement, in which was contained an urn full of ashes, several Roman brass coins, and a small instrument of brass set in ivory, which is supposed to have been used by the Roman ladies in dressing their hair.

About a furlong from *Golvadnek*, on a hill called *Karn-Menelez*, are two barrows, in which it is said Roman coins and urns have been found; and in the year 1600, a large gilt urn, graved with letters, was found in a large stone chest near *Tywardreth*.

Three Roman pateræ of fine moor-stone, turned and polished, have been found not many years ago in this county. One was discovered in an old hedge, at a place called *Ludgvan*, and is supposed to be a sacrificial patera for receiving the blood of the victim, and conveying it as an offering to the altar. The other two pateræ were found in the tenement of *Lefwyn*, in St. Just. They are supposed to be that kind of pateræ from which the libation of wine was poured out, either upon the altar or between the horns of the victim.—About an hundred yards from these two pateræ, was also found a large urn.

There have been several remarkable instances of longevity in this county, particularly a woman of *Githian*, near St. Ives Bay, who died in the year 1676, aged one hundred and sixty-four years, and till a short time before her death enjoyed good health and a sound memory; and the Reverend Mr. Cole, Minister of *Landawidnek*, near the Lizard Point, who died in the year 1683, aged more than one hundred and twenty years.

*Pendennis*, situated at the mouth of Falmouth Haven, is a peninsula of a mile and an half in compass, on which King  
Henry







Henry the Eighth erected a castle, opposite to that of St. Maws, which he also built. It was fortified by Queen Elizabeth, and served then for the governor's house. It is one of the largest castles in the kingdom, and is built upon a high rock. It held out for King Charles the First in the civil wars, till the garrison was almost destroyed, and then was forced to surrender to the Parliament forces under Colonel Fortescue. It is stronger by land than St. Maws, being regularly fortified, and having good outworks.

This county sends no less than forty-four members to parliament, viz. two knights of the shire for the county, and two burgeses for each of the following boroughs: Bodmin, Bosfiney, Camelford, East Loo, West Loo, Fowey, St. German's, Grampound, Helston, St. Ives, Callington, Launceston, Liskeard, Lostwithiel, St. Maws, St. Michael, Newport, Penryn, Saltash, Tregony, and Truro.





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## C U M B E R L A N D.

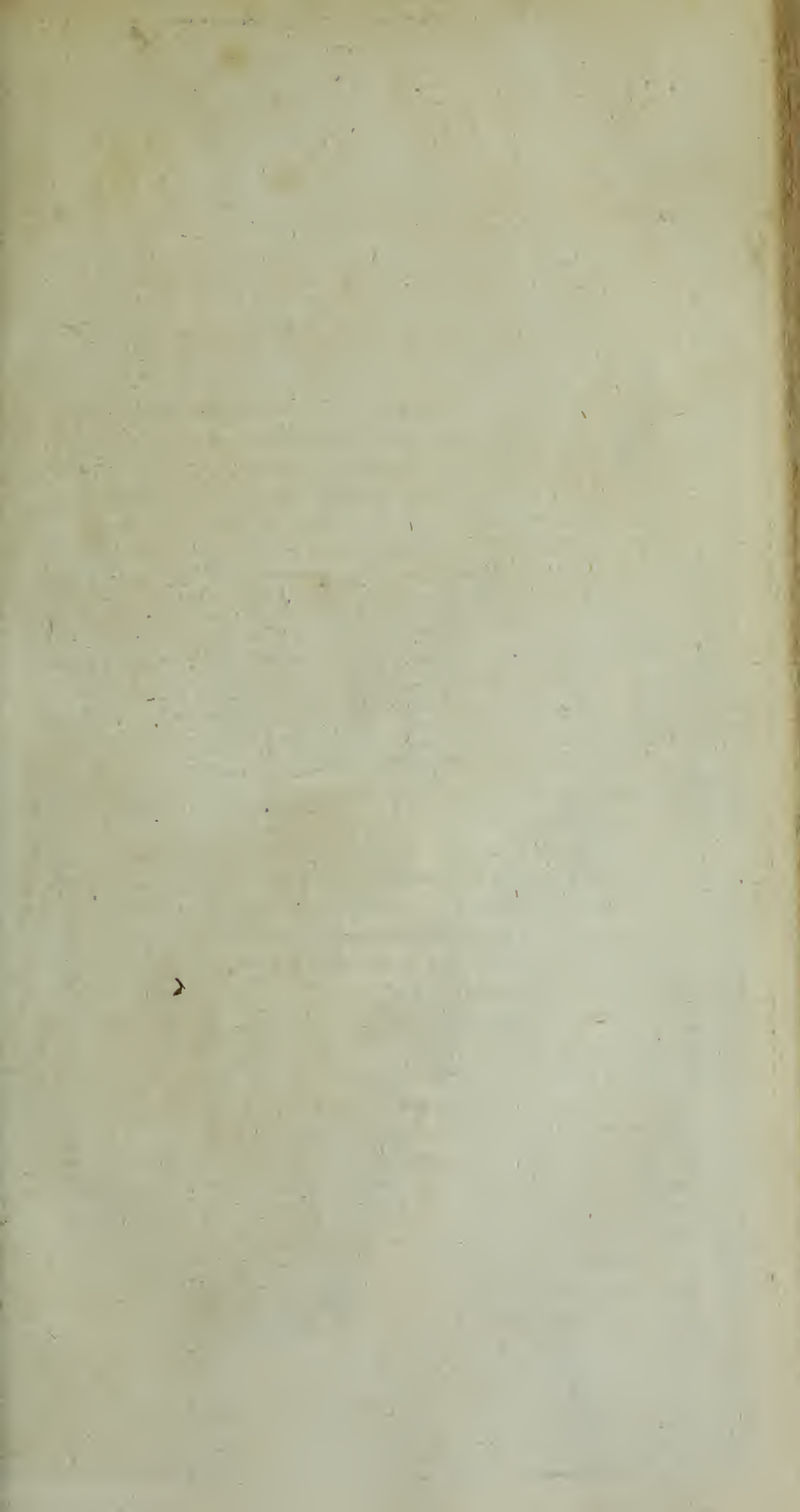
**T**HIS county is bounded by the Irish sea on the west, by part of Scotland on the north, by Northumberland, Durham, and Westmoreland on the east, and by Lancashire and the Irish sea on the south. It is about fifty-five miles from north to south, thirty-eight miles from east to west, and one hundred and sixty-eight miles in circumference.

The air of this county, though cold, is less piercing than might be expected from its situation, being sheltered by lofty mountains on the north. The soil is in general fruitful, the plains producing corn in great abundance, and the mountains yielding pasture for numerous flocks of sheep, with which they are perpetually covered. The face of the country is delightfully varied by lofty hills, vallies, and water, but the prospect would be still more agreeable, if it was not deficient in wood, many plantations of which have been made, but without sufficient success to encourage the practice.

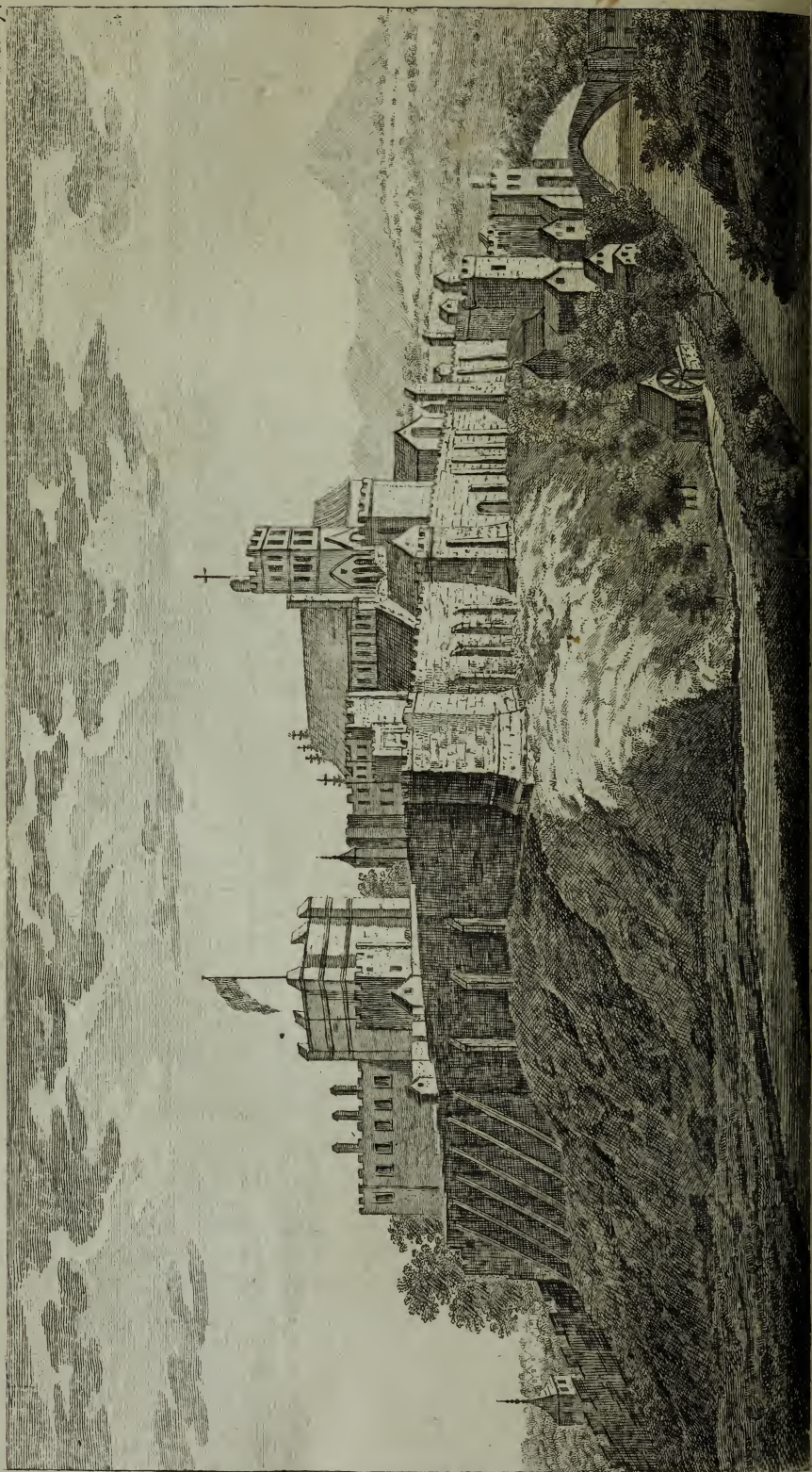
The river Derwent produces salmon in great plenty, and the Eden Char, a small fish of the trout kind, which is not found in any waters of this island except the Eden and Winandermere, a lake in Westmoreland.—At the mouth of the river Irt, on the sea coast, near Ravenglas, are found pearl muscles; for the fishing of which, some persons obtained a patent not many years ago; but it does not appear that this undertaking has yet produced any considerable advantage.

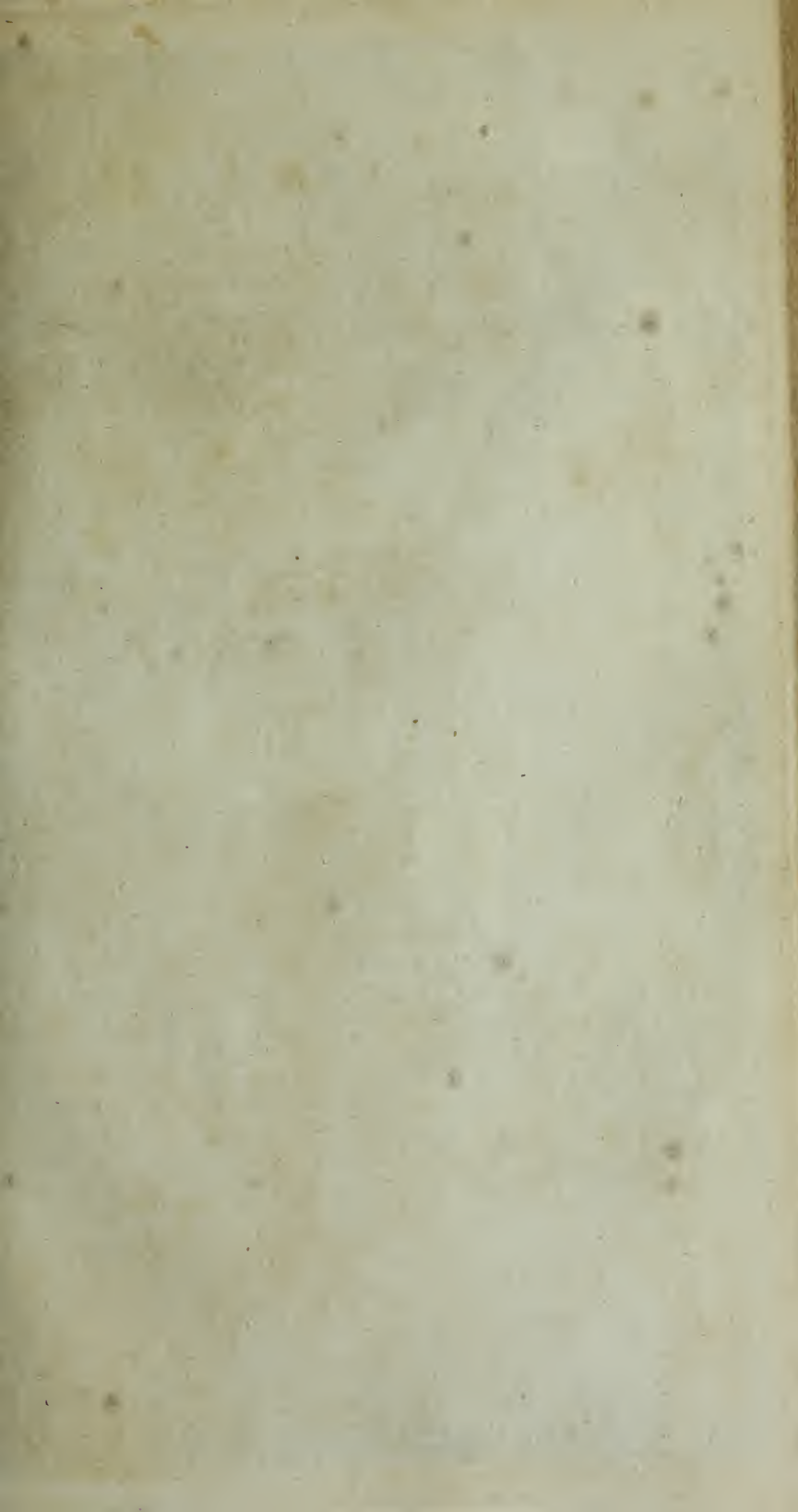
Several mountains in this county contain metals and minerals; and in the south part of it, which is called *Copeland*, the mountains abound with rich veins of copper, as they do also in Derwent Fells, particularly at Newland, a village near Keswick, where, it is said, there was once found a mixture of gold and silver. In this county there are also mines of coals, lead, lapis calaminaris, and black lead, a mineral found nowhere else, called by the inhabitants *wadd*. The wadd mines lie chiefly in and about Derwent Fells, where this mineral may be dug up in any quantity.

Cumberland















Cumberland abounds with rivers and large bodies of water, which the inhabitants call *meres*. Of the rivers, the Derwent is the chief: it rises in Borrodale, a large valley south of Keswick, and running along the hills called Derwent Fells, forms a large lake in which are three small islands, and at the north side of which stands the town of Keswick; thence the Derwent runs through the middle of the county, and passing by Cockermouth, falls into the Irish sea, near a small market-town called Workington.—The Eden, another considerable river in this county, rises at Mervel Hill, near Askrig, in Yorkshire, and running north-west, crosses the counties of Westmoreland and Cumberland upwards of thirty miles, and being joined by several other rivers, runs directly west; and passing by Carlisle, falls into that part of the Irish sea, called Solway Frith.—Besides the two rivers already mentioned, here are also the Eln, the Esk, the Leven, the Irking, the South Tyne, and several other less considerable rivers and brooks, which supply the inhabitants with plenty of fish.

This county is divided into five principal parts called *wards*, which is probably a district equivalent to the hundreds and wapentakes of other counties, though no explanation of the word, as a division of a county is to be found. The county contains one city and eleven market-towns. It lies in the province of York, and diocese of Chester and Carlisle.

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### C I T Y.

The city of CARLISLE, which is three hundred and one miles from London, is of great antiquity, and is said to have been founded by Luil, a petty King of the county, long before the Romans came, who had a station here; but after their departure it was ruined by the Caledonians, &c. In the year 680, Egfrid, King of Northumberland, rebuilt and walled it round. It was again so shattered by the Danes and Norwegians, in the eighth and ninth centuries, that it lay in ruins for about two hundred years, till King William the Second ordered the wall and castle to be repaired. King Henry the First augmented its fortifications, and made it the see of a bishop. It was often besieged by the Scots, who took it in the reign of King Stephen, and again in the reign of King John; but  
their



their successors, Henry the Second and Henry the Third, recovered it. Its walls and castles were well repaired by Richard the Third, and Henry the Eighth built a citadel. It was taken by the rebels in 1745, and retaken soon after by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland.

This city is situated between the conflux of three fine rivers abounding with fish, viz. the Eden on the north, over which it has a bridge that is but six miles from Scotland; the Petteril on the east; and the Caude on the west. It is a seaport, though without ships or merchants, and is the key of England on the west sea, which is here called Solway Frith, as Berwick upon Tweed is on the east sea. It is a wealthy populous place, with well built houses, and three gates in the walls, which are about one mile in compass, and broad enough for three men to walk on them a-breast. The revenues of the city are about five hundred pounds a year, and the inhabitants of the city and suburbs are about two thousand. It trades chiefly in fustains; and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, twenty-four common-councilmen, a sheriff, two bailiffs, &c. and the assizes and sessions are most commonly held here. It has but two parish churches, the situation of one of which, St. Mary's, is different from that of any other in the kingdom; for it stands in the body of the cathedral, which is in the middle of the city, inclosed by a wall. The west part of the cathedral suffered much during the civil wars, when the city was besieged. The Pic's wall begins just below the town, and crosses this part of the island to Newcastle upon Tyne. Here was formerly a monastery.

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## M A R K E T - T O W N S.

COCKERMOUTH is a neatly built trading town, with a harbour, at the distance of three hundred miles from London. It lies low between two hills, upon one of which is the church, and on the other, over against it, on the west side of the Cokar, and south of the Derwent, is the castle, which is very strong. On the gates are the arms of the Moltons, Humphranvilles, Lucies, and Percies. The walls are six hundred yards in compass. It was built soon after the conquest by William de Meschines. In this place are the remains of a vaulted cellar, and some walls of a chapel, which are well worth seeing.

About

About two miles off are the ruins of *Pap Castle*, possessed by the Romans. Here was found a large vessel of green stone, curiously engraved with the image of a priest dipping a child in water, and a Danish inscription in Runick characters, signifying that Ekard, one of their great men, was baptised here, whose example the rest followed. It is still used as a font in the neighbouring church of Bridkirk.

WHITEHAVEN is three hundred and three miles from London, and is so called from the white cliffs that are near it, and shelter the harbour from tempests. It is a populous rich town, chiefly obliged to Sir James Lowther for its improvement, who was at a vast expence to make the harbour more commodious, and to beautify the town, the trade of which chiefly consists in salt and coal; it is so remarkable for the latter, that there are several officers of the customs, it being the most eminent port in England, next to Newcastle, for the coal trade; insomuch that in time of war, or cross winds, it is common to see two hundred sail of ships go off at once from hence to Dublin, by which means they continue to improve the harbour, repair the roads, and have built a new church.

Whitehaven contains sixteen thousand inhabitants, and has three hundred ships constantly employed. The coast is very uncertain, by reason of the shifting of the sands; and it does not appear that any just surveys have been made of it, but what are very ancient; and therefore not entirely to be relied on, wherefore it is very common to take pilots either in the Isle of Man or Whitehaven.

PENRITH stands at the distance of two hundred and eighty-three miles from London. The name in British signifies a *red hill*, or *head*, the ground hereabout and the stone being of a reddish colour. It stands on a hill called Penrith Fell, not far from the conflux of the Eimot and Loder, at which is the round trench called King Arthur's Table. It has a large market-place, with a town-house of wood for its convenience, beautified with bears climbing up a ragged staff, the device of the Earl of Warwick. Here is a remarkable water course brought from Peatrill. This town is large, populous, and well built, is noted for tanners, and reckoned the second in the county for trade and wealth. It has a handsome spacious church, lately re-built, the roof of which is supported



ported by a number of pillars, the shafts of whose columns are of one entire stone of a reddish colour, hewn out of a quarry at the entrance of the town. On the outside of the vestry, in the wall of this church, there is an inscription, importing, that in the year 1598, a plague raged in this county, of which two thousand two hundred and sixty-six persons died at Penrith, two thousand five hundred at Kendal, two thousand two hundred at Richmond, and one thousand one hundred and ninety-six at Carlisle; which is the more remarkable, as no mention is made of such a distemper by any historian. In the church-yard are two large pyramidical pillars, about four yards in height, and five distant from one another, which were set up in memory of Owen Cesarius, who is fabled to be of so enormous a stature, that his grave they say reached from one pillar to another. The figures of bears in stone on each side of his grave are in remembrance of his feats on those animals.—There are several ruins in the neighbourhood of this town, which, from the inscriptions, appear to have been Roman edifices; as also a grotto on the banks of the Eden, which had iron gates, and is thought to have been a place of retreat.

RAVENGLAS is generally supposed to derive its name from the Irish words *ravigh* and *glas*, which signify a braky green, such being the soil on which it stands; though some suppose the original name to be *Avonglas*, a word signifying a sky-coloured river. It is distant from London two hundred and eighty-two miles, and stands between the river Esk and a smaller stream called the Mute, and not far from the river Irt. The Esk and Mute falling here into the sea form a good harbour for ships; and the inhabitants have a considerable fishery. They have the privilege of taking wood from the royal forests or manors, to make the engines or weirs called *fish garths*, in the river Esk, which was granted them by King John, and which they still enjoy.

KESWICK stands on the north side of the lake formed by the Derwent, and is distant from London two hundred and eighty-seven miles. It is situated on a fruitful plain almost encompassed with mountains, called Derwent Fells, against which the vapours that arise from below are perpetually condensed into water. It is sheltered from the north winds by a  
very

very lofty mountain called Skiddaw. Here is a workhouse for the poor of the town and parish, built by Sir John Banks, knight, a native of this town, who was attorney-general in the reign of King Charles the First. It has been long of considerable note for mines of black lead; and the miners, who are its chief inhabitants, have water-works by the Derwent for smelting the lead and sawing boards. Though without any apparent trade, it receives great advantages from what is spent in the town by the nobility and gentry, who resort thither, from every part of England, to see the natural wonders of the lakes and mountains that surround it.

EGREMONT is distant from London two hundred and ninety-eight miles, and stands on the banks of a little river named Broadwater, that falls into the sea near a promontory called St. Bees, about two miles south of Whitehaven. This town formerly had a castle; and before the time of King Edward the First, the middle of the twelfth century, it was a borough, and sent members to parliament, privileges which it lost in the reign of that Prince. It has two bridges over the river Broadwater.

BRAMPTON is distant from London three hundred and eleven miles, and lies on the river Irthing, near its conflux, with a less considerable stream called the Gelt, to the north-east of Carlisle. Here is an hospital for six poor men and six poor women, founded by the Countess Dowager of Carlisle.

JERBY, or IREBY, called *Market Jerby*, to distinguish it from another town called *Jerby*, contiguous to it, which is not a market-town, is distant from London three hundred and one miles, and situated at the head of the river Eln.

KIRK-OSWALD, so called from a church dedicated to St. Oswald, is distant from London two hundred and ninety-one miles, and is only remarkable for a ruined castle, built before the reign of King John.

LONGTOWN is distant from London three hundred and thirteen miles, and stands near the conflux of the Esk, and a small river called the Kirsop, on the borders of Scotland. It has an hospital, and a charity-school for sixty children.



WIGTOWN, situate in a forest called Allerdale, is distant from London three hundred and six miles.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

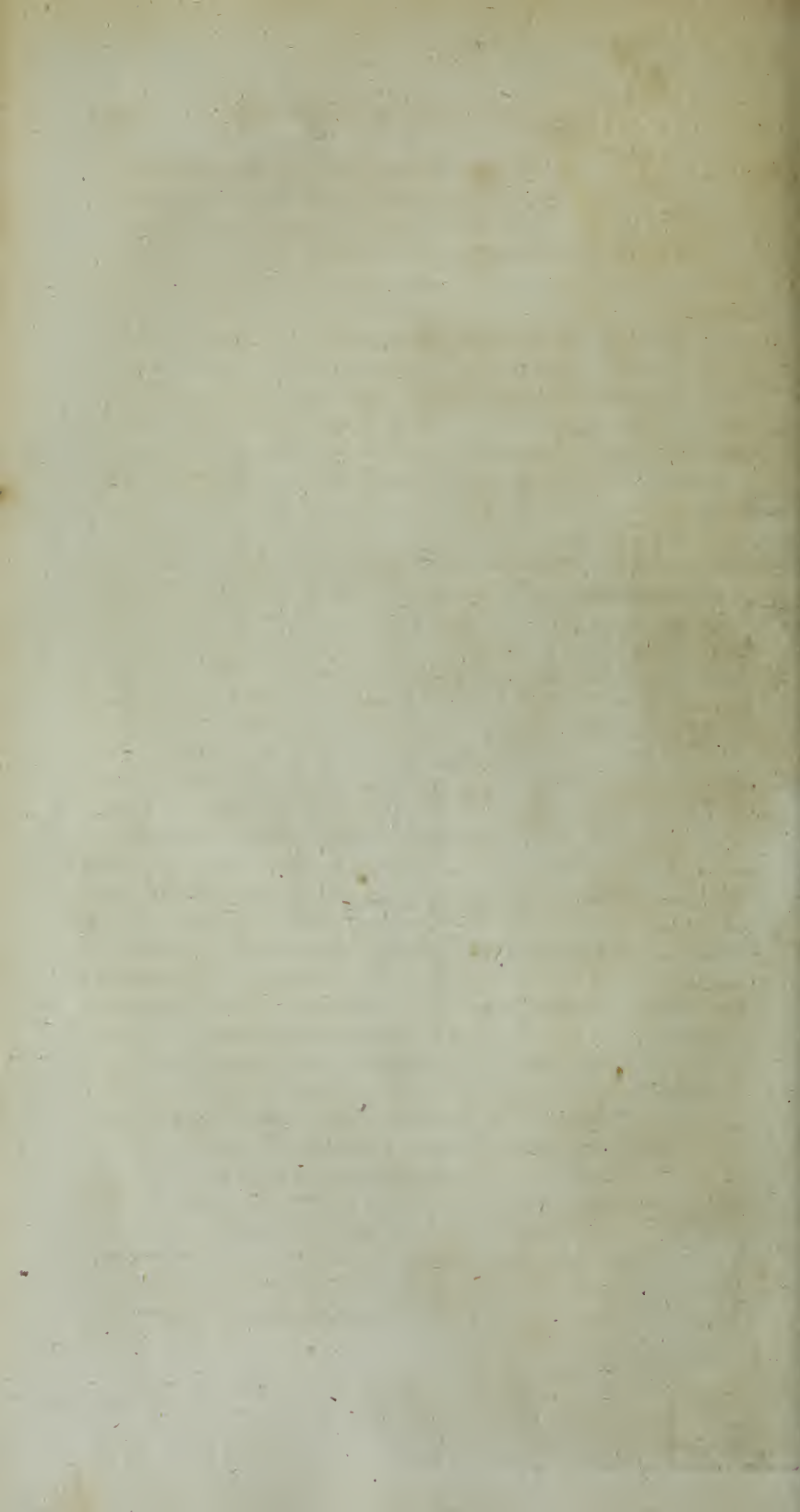
The Duke of Norfolk has a seat at *Drumburg Castle*, on the Solway Frith; the Earl of Carlisle, at *Naworth*, ten miles from Carlisle; the Earl of Suffex at *Kirk Oswald*, thirteen miles from Carlisle; Edward Hassel, Esquire, at *Dacres Castle*, four miles from Penrith; Sir George Fletcher, Baronet, at *Hutton Hall*; the Bishop of Carlisle at *Rose Castle*; and the Duke of Portland at *Penrith Castle*.

The coal mines near Whitehaven are well worth the traveller's inspection, as they are, perhaps, the most extraordinary of any in the known world. The principal entrance into them is by an opening at the bottom of an hill, through a long passage hewn in the rock, which, by a steep descent, leads down to the lowest vein of coal. The greatest part of this descent is through galleries, which continually intersect other galleries; all the coals being cut away, except large pillars, which in deep parts of the mine are three yards high, and about twelve yards square at the base, such great strength being there required to support the ponderous roof. The mines are sunk to the depth of one hundred and thirty fathoms, and are extended under the sea to places, where is, above them, depth of water for ships of large burthen. These are the deepest coal mines that have yet been wrought. Those who have the direction of these deep and extensive works are obliged, with great art and care, to keep them continually ventilated with perpetual currents of fresh air; and where these precautions are not taken, large quantities of damps are frequently collected. These often remain for a long time without doing any mischief; but when, by any accident, they are set on fire, they then produce dreadful explosions, very destructive to the miners; and bursting out of the pits with great impetuosity, like the fiery eruptions from burning mountains, force along with them ponderous bodies to a great height in the air. The late Mr. Spedding, who was the great engineer of these works, having observed that the fulminating damp could be kindled only by flame, and that it was not liable to be set on fire by

red







red hot iron, nor by the sparks produced by the collision of flint and steel, invented a very curious machine, in which, while a steel wheel is turned round with a very rapid motion, and flints applied thereto, great plenty of fire sparks are emitted, which afford the miners such a light as enables them to carry on their works in a close place, where the flame of a candle or lamp would occasion dreadful explosions.—There are five engines belonging to this colliery, which, when all at work, discharge from it about one thousand two hundred and twenty-eight gallons every minute, at thirteen strokes, and, after the same rate, one million seven hundred and sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and twenty gallons every twenty four hours.

About a mile to the northward of Penrith, stands the *Beacon*, the fine prospects from which will amply repay the traveller the trouble of ascending it. It is a square stone building, and happily situated for alarming the country in times of public danger, as it commands an extensive vale. The northern window of the Beacon affords a prospect of Cross Fell, with the Pikes of Dufton, together with a chain of mountains extending, from east to west, near thirty miles, the western point sinking in the spacious plain where the city of Carlisle lies. The utmost bounds of this view are formed by a ridge of Scotch mountains. The eastern window presents a view bounded by the hills of Stanmore, and that lofty promontory Wilbore Fell, with its neighbouring mountains above Kirby Stephen. The south window presents a view of Broughton Castle, and the spreading woods of Lowther, intermixed with rich cultivated lands, from the rising grounds. Some part of the lake of Uls-water are seen from hence, while the mighty rocks and mountains which hem in the lake, lift up their heads in rude confusion, and crown the scene. The western window affords a new and not less pleasing prospect. The town of Penrith lies beneath it, and here and there the river Eimot shows its windings through the woods. The hill, which rises above the town, is crowned with the awful remains of a royal fortress: time has despoiled its grandeur, but its honours still survive to its noble owner, the Duke of Portland, who therewith holds the honour of Penrith, formerly a royal franchise. Beyond these objects, amidst a range of mountains, at the distance of eighteen miles, Skiddaw



daw is seen, whose majestic front surmounts all the high lands that terminate the view. The whole prospect from the Beacon hill, as you turn every way, presents a vast theatre, upwards of one hundred miles in circumference, encircled with stupendous mountains.

*Bulnefs* stands on the promontory that runs into the Solway Frith, from which, as the utmost limits of the province of Britain, Antoninus began his Itinerary, and was anciently the head town of a large manor. It is now only a village, but has a fort. As a testimony of its antiquity, the tracts of streets and pieces of old walls often appear in ploughing up the fields. This country being a kind of frontier to the Romans, it is no wonder that a great number of their antiquities are found in it; but the chief are the ruins of the famous Picts wall, built from Solway Frith through Carlisle, quite across the kingdom to Newcastle, about eighty miles in length, in order to restrain the northern people, who have always been very troublesome to those of the south. This famous wall begins at the distance of a mile to the north, which, from the foot of the bank of Stanwick, a little village, where the wall crosses the Eden, and so runs westward to Bulnefs, passes directly east through a pleasant level country, with plenty of corn, meadow, and pasture ground, for eight miles together; but in all this space the wall is chiefly taken away for building the neighbouring houses; only the ridge of it is to be traced together with the trench all the way before it on the north, and some of the towers on the south side; hence it runs up a pretty high hill, which lies directly north from Naworth Castle, and so continues for two miles through inclosed grounds, in which space all the middle part of the wall is still standing. From hence to its crossing the river Irthing, where it enters Northumberland, it mostly runs through a large waste, where its whole breadth may be seen, which in some places is five, and in others eight feet. This wall, for four or five miles to the west of Stanwick, was built on the same ground as Severus's mud wall; but at a distance from Irthington Moor it took a different route, and the earth and stone kept a parallel course all the way.

The *Picts Wall* is the principal remain of antiquity, not only in this county, but in all Britain. The Romans themselves

selves called it *Vallum Barbaricum Prætentura*, and *Clusara*, and the Greeks *Diateichisma*. It runs the whole breadth of Great Britain in this place, crossing the north parts of the counties of Cumberland and Northumberland, and extending above eighty miles, from that part of the Irish Sea called Solway Frith, on the west, to the German Ocean on the east. This wall or fence was begun by the Emperor Adrian, and built in the manner of a mural hedge, with large stakes driven deep into the ground, and wreathed together with wattles. It was faced with earth and turf, and fortified on the north with a deep ditch. It was repaired by the Emperor Severus in the year 123, and strengthened with several stone fortresses and turrets, near enough to communicate an alarm one to another by sound of trumpet.

The Romans being called from Britain for the defence of Gaul, the North Britons broke in upon this barrier, and in repeated inroads, put all they met with to the sword. Upon this the South Britons applied to Rome for assistance, and a legion was sent over to them, which drove the enemy back into their own country; but as the Romans at this time had full employment for their troops, it became necessary for them to enable the South Britons to defend themselves for the future; they therefore assisted them to build a wall of stone, eight feet broad and twelve feet high, of equal extent with the mural hedge, and nearly upon the same ground. This wall was compleated under the direction of Ælius, the Roman General, about the year 430; and the tracks of it, with the foundation of the towers or little castles, now called *Castle Steeds*, placed at the distance of a mile one from another, and the little fortified towns on the inside, called *Chesters*, are still visible. The neighbouring inhabitants say, that here are sometimes found pieces of tubes or pipes, supposed to be used as trumpets, and to have been artfully laid in the wall between each castle or tower, for giving the quickest notice of the approach of the enemy, so that any matter of moment could be communicated from sea to sea in an hour. In the rubbish of this wall was found, some time ago, an image of brass about half a foot long, which, from the description the ancients have given us of the god Terminus, whose image they used to lay in the foundation of their boundaries, appears to be a representation of that deity.



Half a mile to the west of the river Irthing, at a place called *Burdissel*, there is the foundation of a large castle; and from a moor called Irthington Moor, after Irthington, a town situated on this river, the traces of the stone wall, and the old wall of earth are both visible, and continue the same route parallel to each other, at the distance of about one hundred yards, the new wall being south of the old, quite to Newcastle. The wall enters Northumberland, not far from Irthington Moor, and soon after crosses a small river called *Tip-pall*, at Thirlewall Castle; from Thirlewall Castle it is continued over a range of rugged, naked, and steep rocks, that extends about nine miles, and is built in some places not more than six feet from the precipice, in none more than twenty-four. The highest part of it that is now standing, between Carlisle and Newcastle, is about half a mile from Thirlewall Bankhead, near Thirlewall Castle; it is there nine feet high; and at this place there are the vestiges of a Roman city, surrounded by a deep trench. From hence to Sevenshale, which is supposed to be about half way between the two extremities of the wall, it is removed to the very foundations, except in very few places, where it still stands to the height of about three feet. This part of the country, especially on the north side of the wall, has a dismal aspect, being all wild fells and moors, full of mosses and loughs.

At *Sevenshale*, on the north side of the wall, is still to be seen the greatest part of a square Roman castle, curiously vaulted underneath. At *Carrow-brough*, one mile and half from Sevenshale, are the traces of another Roman city, surrounded by a wall. At *Portgate*, half a mile north-west of Hexham, in Northumberland, there are great ruins of ancient buildings, and a square tower is still standing, and converted into a dwelling-house. From Portgate to Halton Sheels, being the distance of a mile and an half, there is only part of the middle of the wall remaining. From Halton Sheels, for two miles farther east, the whole breadth of the wall is still standing, and the ashler front of the wall is very discernable all the way to Walltown, which stands at the distance of eight miles from Newcastle, and about half a mile south of the wall. From Walltown to Newcastle, the wall runs over a deal of high ground, and through variety of fine corn-land and inclosures of meadow and pasture; and from the  
foot

foot of Benwell Hills to the end, being about two miles, it runs along the high road to Westgate, in Newcastle.

Among the natural curiosities of this county we may reckon the mountains, some of which are remarkable for their height, particularly *Hard-knot hill*, *Wry-nose*, and *Skiddaw*. *Hard-knot-hill*, at the foot of which rises the river Elsk, is a ragged mountain, so steep, that it is almost impossible to ascend it; yet about a hundred and fifty years ago, some huge stones were discovered upon the very summit, which Camden supposed to have been the foundation of a castle, but which may with greater probability be considered as the ruins of some church or chapel; for in the early ages of Christianity, it was a work of most meritorious devotion, to erect crosses and build chapels upon the tops of the highest hills and promontories, not only because they were more conspicuous, but because they were proportionably nearer to Heaven; such buildings were generally dedicated to St. Michael; and it was from such chapels and crosses, that the ridge of mountains, which run along the east side of this county, on the borders of Northumberland, obtained the name of *Cross Fells*, for they were before called *Fiends*, or *Devil's Fells*; and a small town at the bottom of them still bears the name of *Dilston*, which is a corruption of *Devil's Town*, the name by which it is called in some ancient records still extant.

*Wry-nose* is situated about a mile south-east of *Hard-knot-hill*, near the high road from Penrith to Kirby, a market town in Lancashire. Near this road, and on the top of the mountain, are three stones, commonly called *Shire-Stones*; which, though they lie within a foot one of another, are yet in three counties; one in Cumberland, another in Westmoreland, and the third in Lancashire.

*Skiddaw* stands north of Kefwick, and, at a prodigious height, divides, like Parnassus, into two heads, from whence there is a view of Scroffel Hill, in the shire of Annandale, in Scotland, where the people prognosticate a change of weather by the mists that rise or fall upon the top of this mountain, according to the following proverbial rhyme:

“ If Skiddaw have a cap,  
“ Scroffel wots full well of that.”



From the south-east is a view over the tops of mountains, one succeeding to or overlooking the other—a scene of chaos and mighty confusion. This was the prospect which Dr. Brown described by the image of a *tempestuous sea of mountains*. Below it lies the lake, with all the beauties of its margin, together with the vale of Kewick, and the waters of Baffenthwaite, as if delineated on a chart. To the south, the hills towards Cockermouth, though less rugged and romantic than those towards the south-east, are yet no less stupendous. To the north-east is a prospect of a wide and barren heath, extending its plains to Carlisle, and terminated by the mountains of Scotland. To the north-east is a prospect of that spacious circus in which Penrith stands, the queen of the vale, overtopped by Cross Fells, which form the most distant back ground. Skiddaw is said to be, from the plane of the lake's surface, three thousand four hundred and fifty feet in perpendicular height.

Besides Hard-knot-hill, Wry-nose, and Skiddaw, there are two other mountains, called *Lauvellin* and *Castinand*, which are joined in a couplet of the same age and kind :

“ Skiddaw, Lauvellin, and Castinand,  
“ Are the highest hills in all England.”

*Uls-Water* lies a few miles to the east of Kewick, and is a sheet of water nine miles in extent, and above a mile in width. When viewed from an adjoining eminence, you discern all its bays, shores, and promontories, and in the extensive landscape take in a variety of objects, thrown together with all that beauty which wood and water, lawns rising from sweeps of corn, villas, villages, and cots, surmounted by immense mountains and rude cliffs, can form to the eye. The country to the right, for many miles, is variegated in the finest manner by enclosures, woods, and villas, amongst which Graystock, Dacre, and Delmain, are seen; whilst, to the left, nothing but stupendous mountains, and rude projecting rocks, present themselves, vying with each other for grandeur and eminence.—“ While we sat on one of the  
“ islands of this lake to regale ourselves, (says the ingenious  
“ Mr. Hutchinson) the barge put off from the shore to a  
“ station where the finest echo was to be obtained from the  
“ surrounding mountains. On discharging one of their can-  
“ non,

“ non, the report was echoed from the opposite rock, where,  
 “ by reverberation, it seemed to roll from cliff to cliff, and re-  
 “ turn through every cave and valley, till the decreasing tu-  
 “ mult gradually died away upon the ear. The instant it had  
 “ ceased, the sound of every distant waterfall was heard, but  
 “ for an instant only ; for the momentary stillness was inter-  
 “ rupted by the returning echo of the hill behind, where the  
 “ report was repeated like a peal of thunder ; and thus run-  
 “ ning from rock to rock, the report of every discharge was  
 “ re-echoed seven times distinctly. But a general discharge  
 “ of six brass cannon roused us to new astonishment. Though  
 “ we had heard with great surprise the former echoes, this  
 “ exceeded them so much that it seemed incredible ; for on  
 “ every hand the sounds were reverberated and returned from  
 “ side to side, so as to give the resemblance of that confusion  
 “ and horrid uproar, which the falling of those stupendous  
 “ rocks would occasion, if, by some internal combustion, they  
 “ were rent to pieces and hurled into the lake.”—The effects  
 of music here are equally wonderful and pleasing.

*Keswick Lake*, though inferior in size to Uls-Water, affords  
 many delightful scenes. The water, which still bears the name  
 of *Derwentwater*, though embodied in so great a lake, said to  
 be ten miles in circumference, is transparent as chrystal, over  
 whose surface five fine islands are dispersed ; some are covered  
 with corn, others clothed in wood, and the hills are lofty,  
 arising on every side from the margin of the lake. Here the  
 mountains are in some parts covered with grass, in others with  
 heath ; there the rocks are covered with shrubs and brush-  
 wood, which hang in their apertures and creeks. Little val-  
 leys of cultivated land present themselves in the openings  
 and windings of the mountains, and small enclosures and  
 groves of oak stretch up the precipitate ascents of several hills  
 from the brink of the water. At the head of the basin, the  
 mountains are more rugged and romantic. In some parts  
 water-falls strike the ear from every side with agreeable sole-  
 munity. “ Here (says Mr. Pennant) all the possible variety of  
 “ alpine scenery is exhibited, with all the horror of preci-  
 “ pice, broken crag, or overhanging rock ; or insulated pyra-  
 “ midal hills, contrasted with others, whose smooth and ver-  
 “ dant sides swelling into immense and ærial heights, at once  
 “ please and surprise the eye. The two extremes of the



“ lake afford most delightful prospects : the southern is a  
 “ composition of all that is horrible. An immense chasm  
 “ opens in the midst, whose entrance is divided by a rude  
 “ conic hill, once topped with a castle, the habitation of the  
 “ tyrant of the rocks ; beyond a series of broken moun-  
 “ tainous crags soar one above the other, overshadowing the  
 “ dark winding steps of Burrowdale. But the opposite, or  
 “ northern view, is in all respects a strong and beautiful con-  
 “ trast. Skiddaw shows its vast base, and, bounding all that  
 “ part of the vale, rises gently to a height that sinks the  
 “ neighbouring hills, opens a pleasing front smooth and ver-  
 “ dant, smiling over the country like a gentle generous lord,  
 “ while the fells of Burrowdale frown on it like a hardened  
 “ tyrant. The water of this lake is subject to violent agi-  
 “ tations, even when little or no wind is stirring ; and boats  
 “ are frequently tossed about with great violence by what is  
 “ called a *bottom wind*, which raises the waves to a great  
 “ height.”

Near to *Little Salkeld*, on the summit of a large hill, a little towards the north, is a large imperfect druidical monument, by the country people called *Long Meg and her Daughters*.

*Moresby*, near Whitehaven, is remarkable for many remains of antiquity. This place is supposed to be the ancient *Morbium* where the *Equites Cataphractarii* were quartered, because there appears some similitude between *Morbium* and *Moresby* ; but it is more probable that *Moresby*, the name of the place, was derived from *Maurice*, or *Moresce*, the name of a person of note, who is known to have fixed his seat near this place, and may therefore be reasonably supposed to have given it his name, as many others have done to several towns in this county. The shore near this place appears to have been fortified by the Romans in all places convenient for landing, by the ruins of their works, which are still remaining. There are also vaults, foundations of ancient buildings, and caverns, called *Picts Holes*.

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## D E R B Y S H I R E.

**T**HIS county, which lies in the middle of England, inclining a little northward, is bounded by Nottinghamshire and part of Leicestershire on the east, by another part of Leicestershire on the south, by Staffordshire and part of Cheshire on the west, and by Yorkshire on the north. It is of a triangular form; its length from south to north is about forty miles; its breadth upon the north side is about thirty miles, and on the south side it is no more than six; its circumference is about one hundred and thirty miles. The two parts into which the river Derwent divides this county are very different, as well with respect to the air as to the soil, except just on the banks of the river, where the soil on both sides is remarkably fertile. In the eastward division the air is healthy, and its temperature agreeable. The soil is in general fruitful, and therefore well cultivated, producing grain of almost every kind, in great abundance, particularly barley. But in the western division the air in general is sharper, the weather is more variable, and storms of wind and rain more frequent. The face of the county is rude and mountainous, and the soil, except in the vallies, is rocky and sterile; the hills, however, afford pasture for sheep, which in this county are very numerous. Along the banks of the river Dove this county is remarkably fertile, which is generally ascribed to its frequently overflowing them, especially in the spring, and leaving behind it a prolific slime, which it brings from the beds of lime among which it rises: this river is particularly famous for producing a fish called *graylings*, and for trouts is reckoned the best in England. The western part of this county, notwithstanding its barrenness, is yet as profitable to the inhabitants as the eastern part, for it produces great quantities of the best lead, also antimony, mill-stones and grind-stones, besides marble, alabaster, a coarse sort of chrystal spar, green and white vitriol, alum, pit-coal, and iron. The marbles, spars,  
and



and petrefactions, take a fine polish, and, from their great variety, are capable of being rendered extremely beautiful. These are made into vases, urns, pillars, &c.

The principal rivers in this county are the Derwent, the Dove, and the Erwash. The Derwent rises in a rocky, mountainous, and barren tract of country, in the north-west part of this county, which the Saxons called *Peaclond*, that is, an eminence, and is now called *The Peak of Derby*; thence it runs south-east, through a soil (which gives the water a blackish colour) quite cross the county, dividing it nearly into equal parts; and about eight miles south-east of Derby, it falls into the Trent, a large river which rises in Staffordshire, and runs through the counties of Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, and York. The Dove is said to derive its name from the glossy blue or purple colour of its water, which resembles the colour of the bird of the same name. This river also rises in the Peak of Derby, and running south-east, divides this county from Staffordshire, and falls into the Trent, a few miles from Burton upon Trent, in Staffordshire. The Erwash separates the counties of Derby and Nottingham, and falls into the Trent four or five miles north-east of the place where the Derwent empties itself into that river.

Derbyshire is divided into six hundreds, and contains eleven market-towns, but no city. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Litchfield and Coventry, and contains one hundred and six parishes, and about five hundred villages.

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### M A R K E T - T O W N S.

DERBY, which is the county-town, is one hundred and twenty-six miles from London; and is a considerable town, well built, and full of manufacturers, chiefly those in the stocking branch, which employs many hands. It is situated upon the western bank of the Derwent, and upon the south is watered by a smaller stream, called *Martin Brook*, which falls into the Derwent, a little way east of the town. Over this brook there are nine bridges, and there is also a fine stone bridge of five arches over the Derwent, upon which there is a dwelling-house that was formerly a chapel dedicated to St. Mary. This town was a royal borough in the reign of Edward

ward the Confessor, and was afterwards incorporated by a charter from King Charles the First. It is governed by a mayor, nine aldermen, a recorder, a town-clerk, fourteen brethren, and fourteen common councilmen. It is divided into five parishes, in each of which there is a church. The church of All Saints is the most remarkable: it appears by an inscription to have been originally built by the contribution of the batchelors and maidens of the town, in the reign of Queen Mary; but no part of the old building is standing, except the tower, which is a beautiful Gothic structure, one hundred and seventy-eight feet high; the chancel has been lately rebuilt. Near this church is an hospital for eight poor men and four women, founded by a Countess of Devonshire. The town-hall, in which the assizes and sessions are kept, is a large beautiful building of free-stone, with a handsome courtyard, neatly paved, and planted with trees. Many gentlemen who have estates in the Peak reside here. On a piece of ground called *The Row Ditches*, near this town, there are frequent horse-races.

In an island of the Derwent, facing Derby, is a machine, erected in the year 1734, by Sir Thomas Lombe, for the manufacture of silk, the model of which was brought out of Italy, at the hazard of his life. It is a mill which works the three capital engines made use of by the Italians for making organzine or thrown silk; so that by this machinery one hand mill twists as much silk as could be done before by fifty, and better. The engine contains twenty-six thousand five hundred and eighty-six wheels, and ninety-seven thousand seven hundred and forty-six movements, which works seventy-three thousand seven hundred and twenty-six yards of silk thread every time the water wheel goes round, which is three times in a minute, and three hundred and eighteen million five hundred and four thousand nine hundred and sixty yards in one day and night. One water wheel gives motion to all therest, and one of the movements may be stopped separately. One fire engine likewise conveys warm air to every part of the machine, and the whole is governed by one regulator. The house which contains this engine is five or six stories high, and half a quarter of a mile in length. Upon the expiration of the patent which the introducer of it had obtained for fourteen years, the parliament granted Sir Thomas fourteen thousand pounds as a further recompence for  
the



the great hazard and expence he had incurred in introducing and erecting the engine, upon condition of his allowing a perfect model to be taken of it, in order to perpetuate the art of making the same.

CHESTERFIELD is one hundred and forty-nine miles from London, and is the chief town of an hundred in the north-east part of this county, called *Scarsdale hundred*. It is pleasantly situated in a fruitful soil on the side of a hill, between two rivulets, called the *Ibber* and *Rother*. It was made a free borough by King John, but is now only a corporation, governed by a mayor and aldermen. It is populous and well built; the market-place is spacious, and a market-house has been lately erected. The church is a fine structure, but the spire, being built of timber and covered with lead, is warped by the weather from its perpendicular direction. Here is a free-school, which is said to be the most considerable in the north of England, and sends many students to the universities, especially to Cambridge. The market is well supplied with lead, grocery, mercery, malt, leather, stockings, blankets, and bedding, commodities in which it carries on a considerable trade with Yorkshire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and London, as well as with the neighbouring towns, the Peak, the city of Chester, Manchester, and Liverpool.

WIRKSWORTH, or WORKSWORTH, which is one hundred and thirty-eight miles from London, is a large well frequented town in the Peak, and the greatest market for lead in England. At Creich, a village near this town, are furnaces for smelting it; and it is observable that the season they chuse for this work is when the west wind blows, as being the most lasting of all. The people employed about this work are called the *peakrills*, and have a remarkable court among them, called the *barmost*, relative to the mines and controversies among the miners. The King claims the thirteenth penny, for which they compound, at the rate of one thousand pounds a year; and it is said that the tythe of Worksworth is worth as much yearly. There is an handsome church, a free-school, and an alms-house at Worksworth.

ASHBORNE is one hundred and thirty-nine miles from London, and is situated on the east side of the river Dove, and on the borders of Staffordshire. It stands in a rich soil, and carries on a considerable traffic in cheese, great quantities of which are sent up and down the Trent.

BAKEWELL is one hundred and fifty-one miles from London, and is situated upon a small river called the *Wye*, near its conflux with the Derwent. It is supposed to have been a Roman town, from certain altars dug up near it some years ago, in the grounds belonging to Haddon-House, and cut in a rough kind of stone.

To the east of this town is *Scarsdale*, a rich fruitful tract, so called from the Saxon *skarrs*, barren rocks, with which it is surrounded.

ALFRETON, which is thought to have been anciently called *Alfred's Town*, from its having been originally built by King Alfred, is situated one hundred and thirty-nine miles from London, and is only remarkable for its ale, which is strong, and of a good flavour.

BOLSOVER is one hundred and forty-seven miles from London, and is chiefly noted for making good tobacco pipes.

WINSTER is one hundred and forty-six miles from London, and is situated south-west of Bakewell, near some rich mines of lead.

TIDESWELL is one hundred and fifty-eight miles from London, and is supposed to have derived its name from a well or spring near the bottom of a hill near it, which constantly ebbs and flows with the tide of the sea. There is a free-school in this town.

DRONFIELD is one hundred and fifty-four miles from London; and is situated among the mountains at the edge of the Peak, in a remarkably wholesome air. Here is a grammar-school, which was founded by Mr. Fanshaw, a native of this place, who was Remembrancer of the Exchequer to Queen Elizabeth.



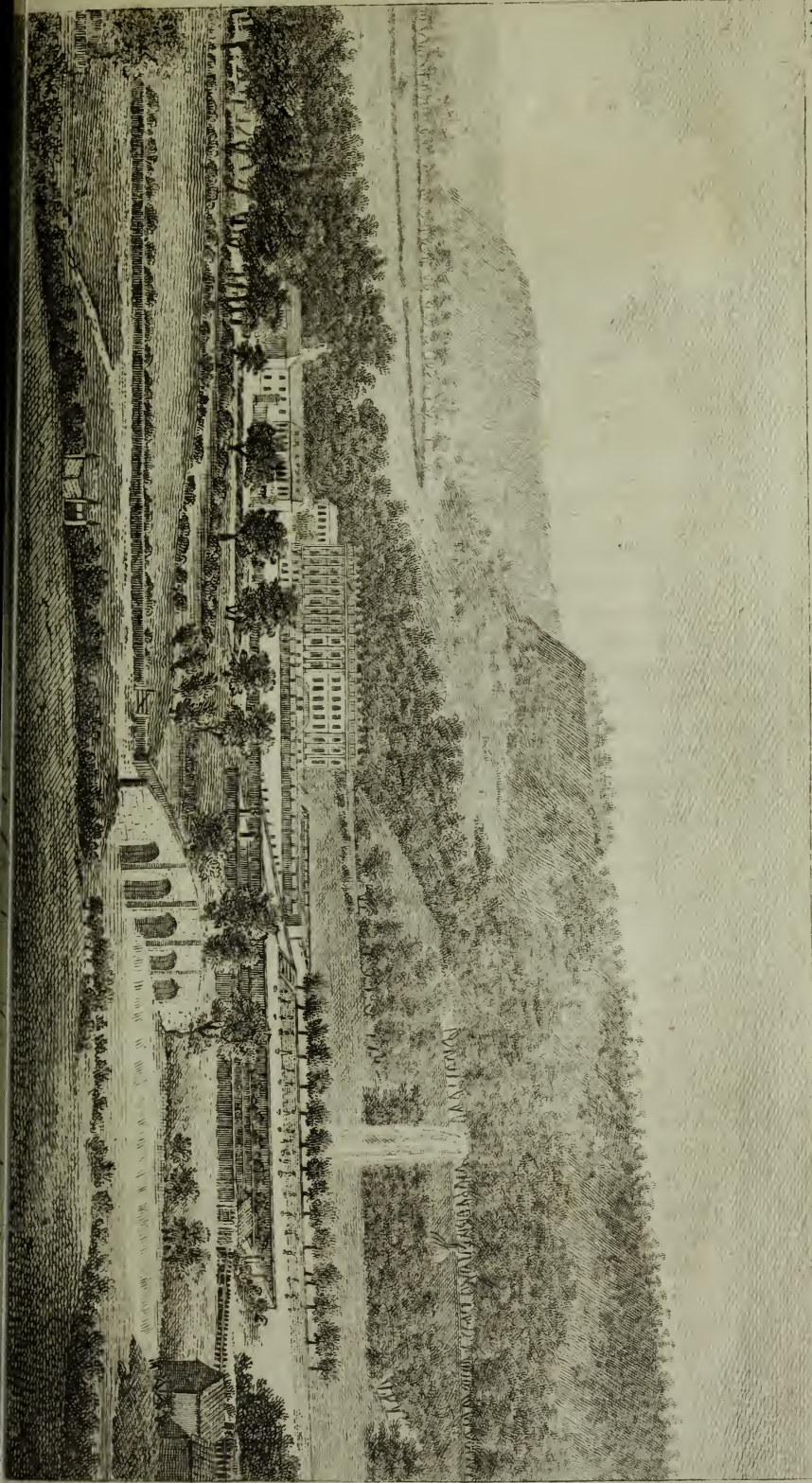
CHAPEL IN THE FRITH is an inconsiderable town, situated in an hundred called *The High Peak*, at the distance of one hundred and sixty-three miles from London.

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### *The WONDERS of the PEAK.*

These are the most remarkable curiosities in the county of Derby, and we shall, therefore, here give a particular description of them. They are seven in number.

I. *Chatsworth-House*. This is the magnificent seat of the Duke of Devonshire, and is the only one of the seven wonders that is not the production of nature. It stands about six miles south-west of Chesterfield, on the east side of the Derwent, having the river on one side, and on the other a very lofty mountain, the declivity of which is planted very thick with firs. The heads of these trees gradually rising as the mountain ascends, might seem to a poetical imagination to have climbed one above another, to overlook and admire the beauties of the building below. The front of the house, which looks to the gardens, is a piece of regular architecture. Under the corner of the frieze is the family motto, *Cavendo tutus*, which, though but twelve letters, reaches the whole length of the pile. The sashes of the attic story are seventeen feet high; the panes are of ground glass, two feet wide, and the wood work of the frames is doubly gilt. The hall and chapel are adorned with paintings by Verrio, particularly a very fine representation of the death of Cæsar in the capitol, and of the resurrection of Christ. The chambers, which are large and elegant, form a magnificent gallery, at the end of which is the Duke's closet, finely beautified with Indian paintings. The west front, which faces the Derwent, is adorned with a magnificent portal, before which there is a stone bridge over this river, with a tower upon it that was built by the Countess of Shrewsbury. There is also in an island in the river, a building like a castle, which, seen from the house, has a good effect. In the garden there is a grove of cypress trees, and several statues extremely well executed. There is also a very fine piece of water, in which there are several statues, representing Neptune, his nereids, and sea-horses: on the banks there is a tree of copper, representing a willow,







willow, from every leaf of which water is made to issue by the turning of a cock, so as to form an artificial shower. Advantage has been taken of the irregularity of the ground to form a cascade: at the top are two sea nymphs with their urns, through which the water issues; and in the basin, at bottom, there is an artificial rose, so contrived, that the water may be made to issue from it so as to form the figure of that flower in the air. There are many other beauties both of art and nature, peculiar to the place, of which no description, however minute and judicious, could convey an adequate idea. This palace was built by William, the first Duke of Devonshire. The stone used in the building was dug from quarries on the spot, including the marble, which is finely veined, and is found in such plenty, that several people have used it to build houses.

From Chatsworth-House there is a moor, extending thirteen miles north, which has neither hedge, house, or tree, but is a dreary and desolate wilderness, which no stranger can cross without a guide. This plain however contributes not a little to the beauty of Chatsworth; for the contrast not only renders it more striking, but it contains a large body of water, covering near thirty acres of ground, which is not only a common drain for the adjacent country, but supplies all the reservoirs, canals, cascades, and other water works in the gardens of Chatsworth-House, to which it is conducted by pipes, properly disposed for that purpose.

Upon the hills beyond the garden is a park, where are also some statues and other curiosities; but even these hills are overlooked by a very high rocky mountain, from which the view of the palace, and the cultivated valley in which it stands, breaks at once upon the traveller like the effect of enchantment.

In the house that was first built upon this spot, by Sir William Cavendish, of Suffolk, Mary Queen of Scots remained prisoner for seventeen years, under the care of Cavendish's widow, the Countess of Shrewsbury, in memory of which, the new lodgings that are built in the place of the old are still called *The Queen of Scots' Apartment*. Marshal Tallard, also, the French general, who was taken prisoner by the Duke of Marlborough at the battle of Blenheim, was entertained here a few days; and when he took his leave of the Duke of Devonshire, he said, 'That when he returned to



‘ France, and reckoned up the days of his captivity in England, he should leave out those he had spent at Chatworth.’

II. *Mam Tor, or Mother Tower.* This is a mountain on the north side of the road from Buxton to Castleton, under which are several lead mines. Great quantities of earth and large stones are very frequently falling down from it, if the weather be ever so calm, and with so loud a noise as often to terrify the inhabitants of the neighbourhood; and yet the mountain is of such an enormous bulk, that the decrease of it is not to be perceived.

III. *Eden Hole*, which is near Chapel in the Frith, is a vast chasm in the side of a mountain, twenty-one feet wide, and more than forty long. In this chasm or cave appears the mouth of a pit, the depth of which could never be fathomed; a plummet once drew eight hundred and eighty-four yards (which is something more than half a mile) of line after it, of which the last eighty yards were wet, but no bottom was found. Several attempts to fathom it have been since made, and the plummet has some times stopped at half that depth, owing probably to its resting on some of the protuberances that stand out from the sides. That such protuberances there are, is proved by an experiment constantly made, to shew its great depth to those who visit the place, by the poor people that attend them, who always throw some large stones down into it, which are heard to strike against the irregularities of the side with a fainter and fainter sound, that is at length gradually lost. The Earl of Leicester, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, hired a poor wretch to venture down in a basket, who, after he had descended two hundred ells, was drawn up again, but to the great disappointment of the curious enquirer, he had lost his senses, and in a few days after died delirious. The cavern in which this pit is found, is contracted within the rock, and water is continually trickling from the top, where it also forms sparry concretions.

IV. *Buxton Wells* derive their name from the village of Buxton, near the head of the river Wye. The medicinal water here rises from nine springs; and the bed or soil from which the water issues, is a kind of marble; and it is remarkable

markable, that within five feet of one of the hot springs there is a cold one. The use of these waters, both by drinking and bathing, is much recommended, and the wells are therefore greatly frequented in the summer season. The water is said to be sulphureous and saline, yet it is not foetid nor unpalatable, because the sulphur is not united with any vitriolic particles, and with but few that are saline. For the same reason it does not tinge silver, nor act as a cathartic. When drank it creates a good appetite, removes obstructions, and if mixed with the chalybeate water, with which this place also abounds, it answers all the intentions of the springs at Bath, or those of the Hot Wells below Bristol. The use of this water, by bathing, has been recommended by physicians in all scorbutic, rheumatic, and nervous disorders. These wells are inclosed within an handsome stone building, erected at the charge of George Earl of Shrewsbury. Here is a convenient house for the accommodation of strangers, built at the charge of the Duke of Devonshire. There is a bath-room which is arched over head, and is rendered handsome and convenient. The bath will accommodate twenty people at a time to walk and swim in. The temper of the water is blood warm, and it may be raised at pleasure to any height. Mary Queen of Scots, who was here for some time, took her leave of it, in the distich of Cæsar upon Feltria, varied thus :

“ *Buxtona, quæ callidæ celebrare nomine lymphæ,  
 “ Forte mihi posthac non adeunda, Vale.*”

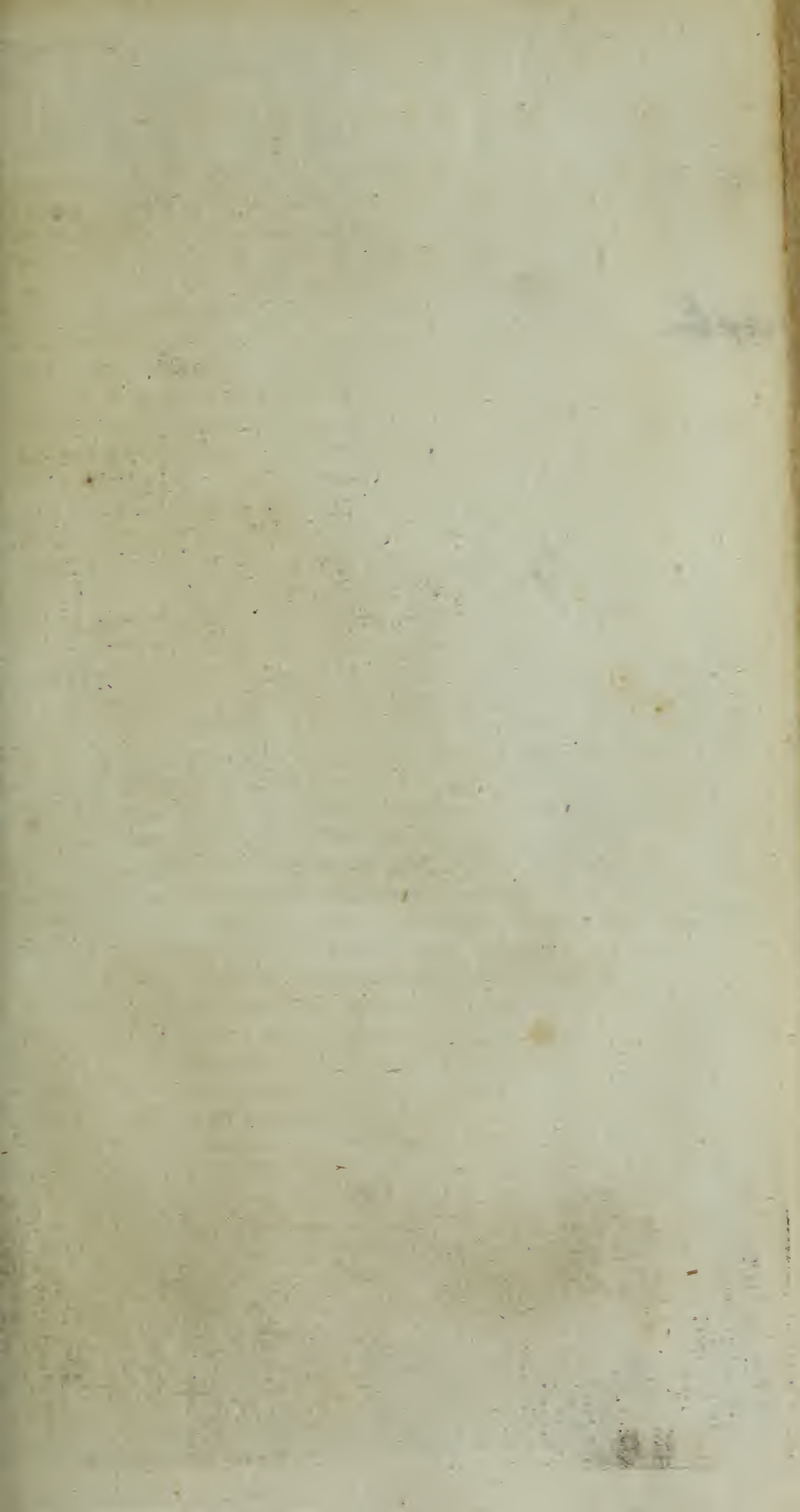
V. *Tideswell* is a spring situated near the market-town to which it has given its name. The well is about three feet deep, and three feet wide, and the water, in different and uncertain periods of time, sinks and rises, with a gurgling noise, two-thirds of the perpendicular depth of the well. Many conjectures have been formed to account for this phænomenon. Some have thought that in the aqueduct a stone stands in equilibrio, and produces the rise and fall of the water, by vibrating backwards and forwards ; but it is as difficult to conceive what should produce this vibration at uncertain periods, as what should produce the rise and fall of the water. Others imagine that these irregular ebbings and flowings, as well as the gurgling noise, are occasioned by air, which agitates or presses



presses the water from the subterraneous cavities ; but these do not tell us what can be supposed first to move the air. And others have imagined the spring to be occasionally supplied from the overflowing of some subterraneous body of water, lying upon a higher level.

VI. *Pool's Hole* is a cave in the Peak, which is said to have taken its name from one *Pool*, a notorious robber, who being outlawed, secreted himself here from justice ; but others will have it that *Pool* was some hermit, or anchorite, who made choice of this dismal hole for his cell. *Pool's Hole* is situated at the bottom of a lofty mountain, called *Coitmoſs*, near *Buxton*. The entrance is by a small arch, so very low, that such as venture into it are forced to creep upon their hands and knees, but it gradually opens into a vault more than a quarter of a mile long, and, as some have pretended, a quarter of a mile high. It is certainly very lofty, and looks not unlike the inside of a Gothic cathedral. In a cavern to the right, called *Pool's Chamber*, there is a fine echo, though it does not appear of what kind it is ; and the sound of a current of water, which runs along the middle of the great vault, being reverberated on each side, very much increases the astonishment of all who visit the place. On the floor here are great ridges of stone. Water is perpetually distilling from the roof and sides of the vault, and the drops, before they fall, produce a very pleasing effect, by reflecting numberless rays from the candles carried by the guides ; they also, from their quality, form crystallizations of various forms, like the figures of fret-work ; and in some places, having been long accumulated one upon another, they have formed large masses, bearing a rude resemblance to men, lions, dogs, and other animals. In this cavity is a column, as clear as alabaster, called *Mary Queen of Scots' Pillar*, because it is said she went in so far ; and beyond it there is a steep ascent for near a quarter of a mile, which terminates in a hollow in the roof, called *The Needle's Eye*, in which, when the guide places his candle, it looks like a star in the firmament. If a pistol is fired near the *Queen's Pillar*, the report will be as loud as a cannon. There is another passage, by which people generally return. Not far from this place are two springs, one cold and the other hot, but so near one another, that the thumb and finger of the same hand may be put into both streams at the same time.

VII. *The*









VII. *The Devil's Arse*, for what reason so called is not known, is a cavern, which runs under a steep hill, about six miles north-west of Tideswell, by an horizontal entrance sixty feet wide, and something more than thirty feet high. The top of this entrance resembles a regular arch, checquered with stones of different colours, from which petrifying water is continually dropping. Here are several huts, which look like a little town, inhabited by a set of people who seem in a great measure to subsist by guiding strangers into the cavern, which opens at the extremity of this entrance. The outward part of this cave is very dark; it is also rendered very slippery by a current of water which runs across the entrance; and the rock hangs so low, that it is necessary to stoop in order to go under it; but having passed this place, and another current which sometimes cannot be waded, the arch opens again to a third current, near which are large banks of sand; after those are passed the rock closes. This cavern is sometimes called *Peak's Hole*.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

*Chatsworth House*, the most magnificent seat in this county, has been already described; it being generally included among the seven wonders of the Peak. But there are other seats in Derbyshire well worthy of attention, among which are the following:—

*Kedleston Hall*, near Derby, is the seat of Lord Scarisdale. This is one of the finest houses in the kingdom. The principal front is beautiful; it extends three hundred and sixty feet, consisting of a centre, and two wings of pavilions. The portico is light, and consists of six very fine pillars, which support the tympanum, at the points of which are statues. The garden front is a very uncommon one, but light; the centre has no window in it, but four pillars project from the wall, and support as many statues; between them are niches with statues in them also.

The Egyptian hall is a very noble room; and has in it a very magnificent range of Corinthian columns of Derbyshire marble. Here are two statues, one of Apollo, and the other of Meleager. The chimney-pieces are of statuary marble,  
one



one of which represents the rape of the Sabines, by Michael Angelo, and the other the continence of Scipio, by the same master.

The north music room is thirty-six feet long, by twenty-four wide, and twenty-two feet high, finished with stucco, an Ionic entablature, antique cieling, compartments, and ornaments. The chimney-piece is of statuary marble. Among the paintings here are Bacchus and Ariadne, a very capital piece, by Guido; the temple of Flora, by Viviano; an old man's head, the expression of which is remarkably fine, by Rembrandt; and the Roman charity, by Signora Pozzi.

The withdrawing-room is hung with blue damask, antique cieling, coved, and very elegant. A Venetian window, and the door-cases finely finished with Corinthian columns in alabaster. The chimney-piece is of statuary marble. The cornice is supported by two whole length female figures, very neatly executed. The tablet in the frieze is virtue rewarded with riches and honour, in basso relievo. Among the paintings in this room are Olympia and Orlando, by Annibal Caracci; there is great expression in these figures, the attitudes are strong, and the colouring fine; the death of the Virgin, by Raphael; Jupiter and Io, by Andrea Sacchi; a Magdalen, by Annibal Caracci; an holy family, by Raphael; another by Guido.

The library is thirty-six feet long by twenty-four broad, and twenty-two high. The cieling is Mosaic; the chimney-piece of statuary marble, Doric columns, with bases to support the cornice. Among the paintings here are Adam and Eve, by Carlo Lotti; Lot and his daughter, by the same master; David interpreting to Nebuchadnezzar, by Rembrandt; Rinaldo and Armida, by Nicholas Poussin; and Andromeda chained to the rock, by Guido.

The saloon is a very elegant room, a circle, forty-two feet diameter, in which are some good paintings and very fine statues.

The dining-room is finished with stucco; the cieling painted, and very elegant. In the circles are Europe, Asia, Africa, and America; in the middle circle love embracing fortune; in the oblong square, the four seasons, expressed by triumphs of Venus, Apollo, Bacchus, and Æolus: the whole executed in a very neat and elegant manner. The chimney-piece is of statuary marble. The glasses are elegant, and the  
slabs

slabs of Siena marble. Among the paintings in this room are, Hagar and Ishmael, by Cerri Ferri; a landscape by Claude Lorrain; and two landscapes from Milton's *Allegro*, by Zuccarelli.

In the family pavilion are an anti-room and a breakfast room, finished with fresco paintings and antique ornaments, after the baths of Dioclesian.

There are several landscapes in Lady Scarfsdale's dressing-room, and good paintings in some of the other rooms.

The architecture of Keddestone is light and pleasing, and it is upon the whole a very noble house. The environs are finished in a manner equal to the buildings. In the front of the house, for a considerable extent, is a fine winding river. The lawns hang very well to the water, and are bounded by woods of noble oaks, in a most pleasing manner. The approach from Derby is through one of these woods, and the road leaving it, you gain an oblique view of the house; but entering another very fine wood it is lost; and on coming out of the dark grove, you break at once on the house, backed with spreading plantations, which have a noble effect. The water winds before it through the vale in the most agreeable manner. You command both the reaches that form the island, and move up to the house over a fine bridge of three large arches.

From the garden front Lady Scarfsdale has traced with great taste a pleasure ground—a winding lawn decorated with trees, shrubs, and great knots of wood, and a gravel walk through it: it winds up the vale between two hills to the right; is parted from the park on each side by a sunk fence; and as the scattered trees and clumps are prettily varied, they let in, as the walk rises on the hill, very picturesque views of the lake and the adjoining woods. It rises to the summit, and there commands a very noble prospect of all the adjacent country. You look down into the park vale, with a large river winding through it, accompanied with spreading lawns, and bounded by very noble woods of oak. Around the whole is a vast range of waving hills, broken into inclosures of a good verdure, and hanging to the eye in various sweeps.

*Formark Hall*, near Swarton, south of the Trent, is the seat of Sir Robert Burdett. It is a large oblong house; the

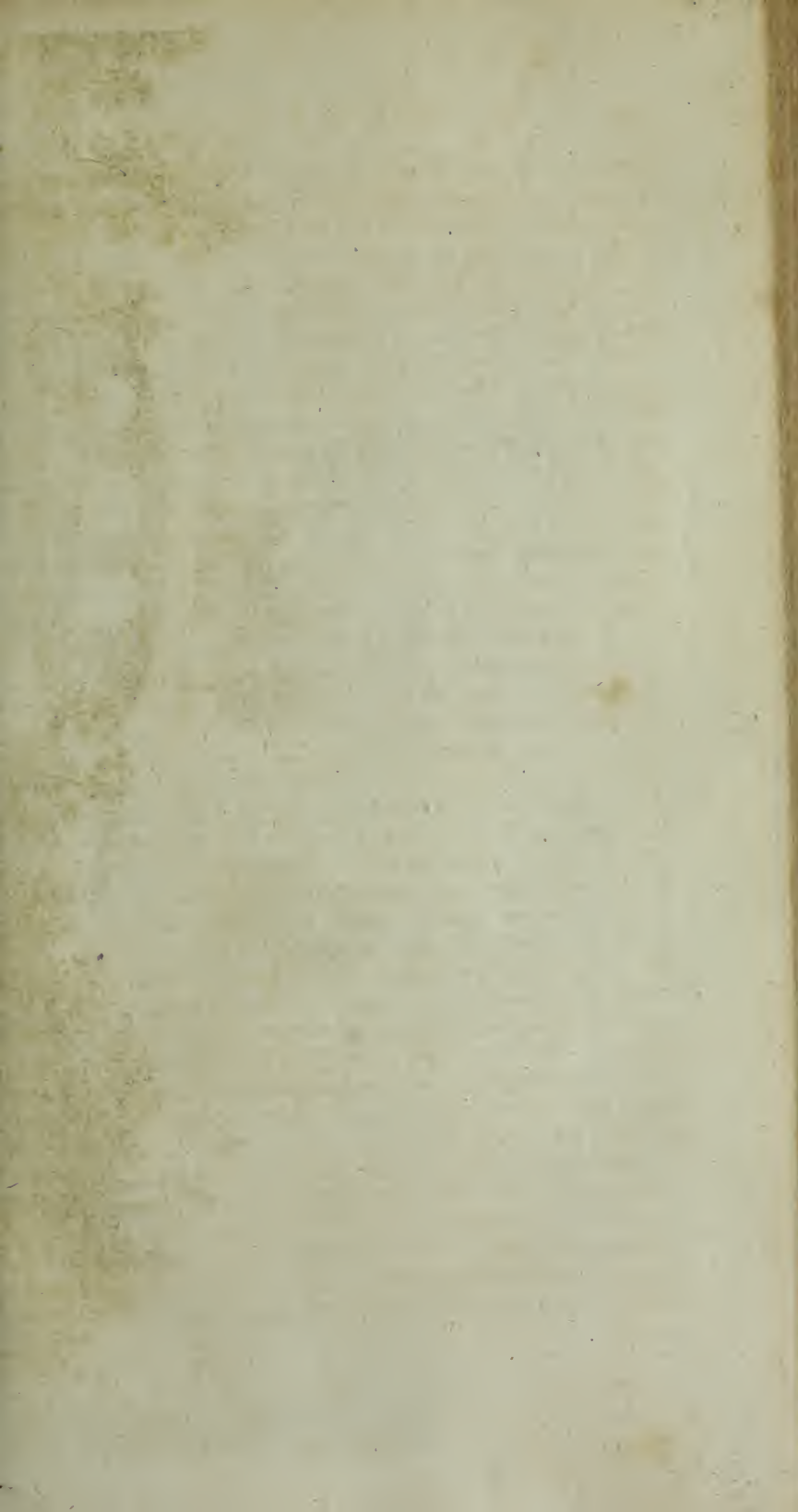


corners projecting enough to form bow windows, and are domed : in the centre of the principal front, is a portico supported by four Ionic pillars. It commands an extensive prospect over the vale through which the Trent runs ; and being well united with some fine woods, has a good effect. The back front, which is very light and handsome, looks on some hanging hills crowned by distant plantations.

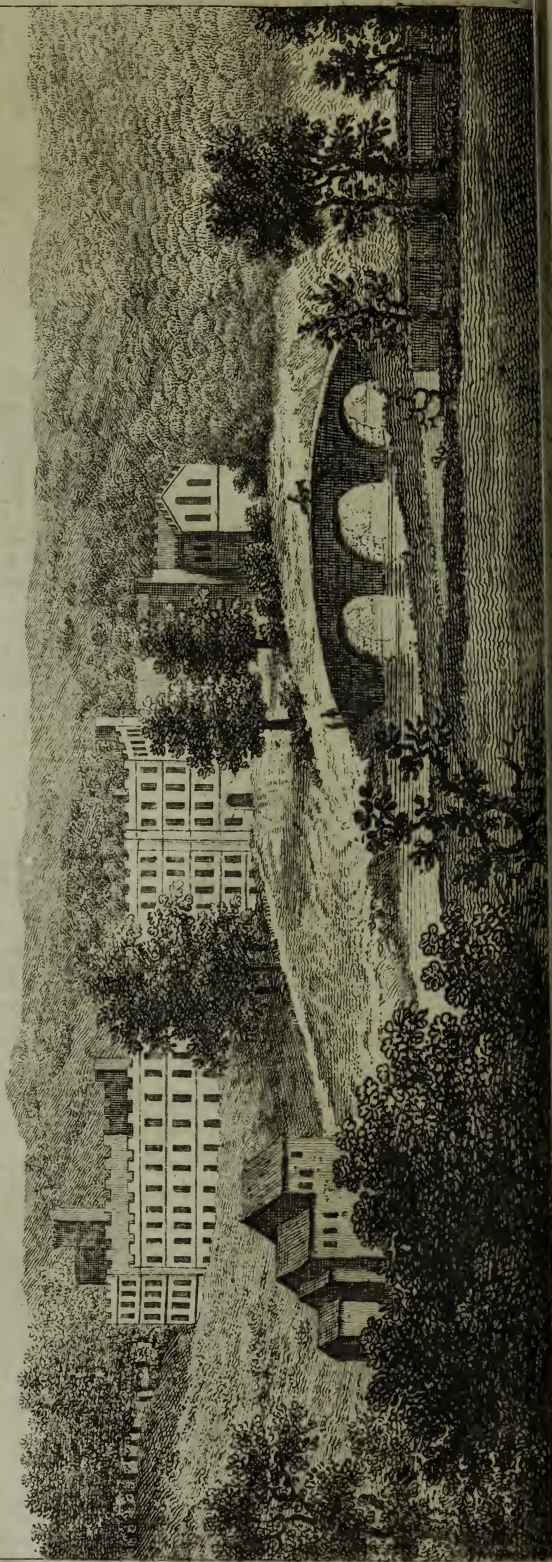
The hall is fifty-two feet long by twenty-six broad. It opens on one side into the principal apartments ; consisting of a dining-room, thirty feet long by twenty-one broad ; a drawing-room, twenty-eight feet long by twenty-one broad ; and another, thirty-four feet long by twenty-one broad : on this side of the hall is likewise the great stair-case. These rooms are handsomely fitted up, and the chimney-pieces are very elegant. On the other side, the hall opens into the common parlour, and that into the library. Here is a very good picture of the holy family, of the school of Raphael ; the colours are brilliant, the group good, and the hair of the old man's head fine. Also some Dutch pieces, the attitudes in which are very natural. It communicates with the bed-chamber, and that opens into the lady's dressing-room, united on the other side to the hall by an anti-room, adjoining to which is another stair case. The family apartment is therefore distinct on one side the hall, and perfectly well contrived for convenience ; and the principal suite of rooms on the other. The height of all the floors sixteen feet : over it are eight bedchambers, twenty-eight feet square.

The pleasure-ground is very beautiful. A winding walk leads from the house through a wood of very fine oaks, down a falling valley to the banks of the Trent, and turns up a cliff of rock and wood, which is one of the greatest curiosities in the county ; the river has no where so bold and romantic a shore. The rocks are perpendicular and of a good height, and the intermixture of woods extremely romantic, hanging over the cliffs in some places in a striking manner, and almost overshadowing the water.

Beneath, at a great depth, the Trent makes a very bold sweep ; and winding through the valley, all richly inclosed, and of a fine verdure, it appears at different spots in the most pleasing manner. To the left you command a fine bend of it, which leads to a village with a white church rising from the midst of it : and at some distance beyond, it again is caught  
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among the inclosures beautifully fringed with trees and hedges. You also look back on the rocky steep of wood, rising picturesquely from the water's edge. There are few views finer than this; from hence, the plantations unite with others that conduct you again to the house.

*Haddon Hall*, in the High Peak, near Bakewell, was the ancient seat of the Vernons, one of whom, Sir George Vernon, who lived in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, was so noted for his hospitality, that he was called *The King of the Peak*. It went from him, by the marriage of his daughter to the son of the first Earl of Rutland; and is now the property of the present Duke of Rutland.

*Radburn*, the seat of Colonel Pole, is very beautifully situated on one of the highest grounds in the south part of Derbyshire; commanding very extensive views into Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire, and Cheshire; and from being well sheltered with plantations, and very fine woods, it is not at all bleak. The house is exceedingly convenient, the apartments being remarkably well contrived and disposed.

At *Oakover*, near Ashborne, to the west of Radburn, is the seat of the late — Oakover, Esq; where is a very famous picture of the holy family, by Raphael, for which fifteen hundred guineas have been refused; and what is remarkable, it was found among some old lumber, hid, as it is supposed, during the civil wars. It is wonderfully fine; there is such a diffusion, grace, ease, and elegance over the whole piece, that it strikes the spectator the moment he enters the room. The grouping of the Virgin and the two children is as happy as imagination can conceive; the attitudes surprisingly caught. The turn of the Virgin's head is extremely graceful. The expression of the boys, particularly Christ, is full of animation; and though not natural to the age, yet it is consistent with the idea of the artist, and uncommonly pleasing. The warmth and tenderness of the colouring cannot be exceeded; the mellow tints of the flesh are an animated representation of life; and the general harmony of the whole piece is admirable. There are also here, among other good pictures, a painting of the unjust steward, by  
U 2 Rubens;



Rubens; Venus, a very good performance, by Titian; and also Isidorus, Ignatius, and Francis Xavier, by the same master.

About three miles from Oakover, is *Ilam*, the seat of — Port, Esq; the gardens of which are as romantic as any in England. They consist of a small vale, bounded by very high and rather steep hills, totally covered with wood, forming a complete amphitheatre. A rapid stream washes the bottom of them on one side, and on the other is a walk, from whence you command the whole sweep in a very great style; a nobler range of wood, hanging almost perpendicularly, cannot be seen. The walk at the entrance of the valley winds up a rocky cliff, from which you look down on the river in some places, and in others only hear the roar of it over broken rocks; at the end of the vale, on the side of the water, it commands the whole, and looks full on the entrance of the ground, which seems quite blocked up by a distant mountain called *Thorpe Cloud*, of a very regular coned shape, blunt at top, which has a very fine effect. You look also upon a bridge thrown over the river, which, perhaps, hurts the view: it is small, and not at all in unison with objects of such magnificence as these vast woods, and the hill which rises so boldly above it. There should be no bridge in sight, or it should be a single lofty arch, to unite in effect with the rest of the scene.—Under the rock in the gardens two rivers rise; one is called the *Manifold*, which runs under ground seven miles: it boils up like a vast spring, and soon after falls into the Dove. Chaff thrown in at Weston rises here.

The Earl of Ferrars has a seat at *Shirley*, in the hundred of Appletree, in this county; as also the Duke of Portland, at *Bolsover Castle*; the Duke of Devonshire, at *Hardwicke*; the Duke of Dorset, at *Crox Hall*; and Sir Henry Harpur, at *Calke*, near Derby.

*Little Chester*, now a small village upon the Derwent, near Derby, but on the other side of the river, was anciently a city. It was also a Roman station, as appears by a great number of Roman coins, of different metals, that have been found in it. When the water of the Derwent happens to be





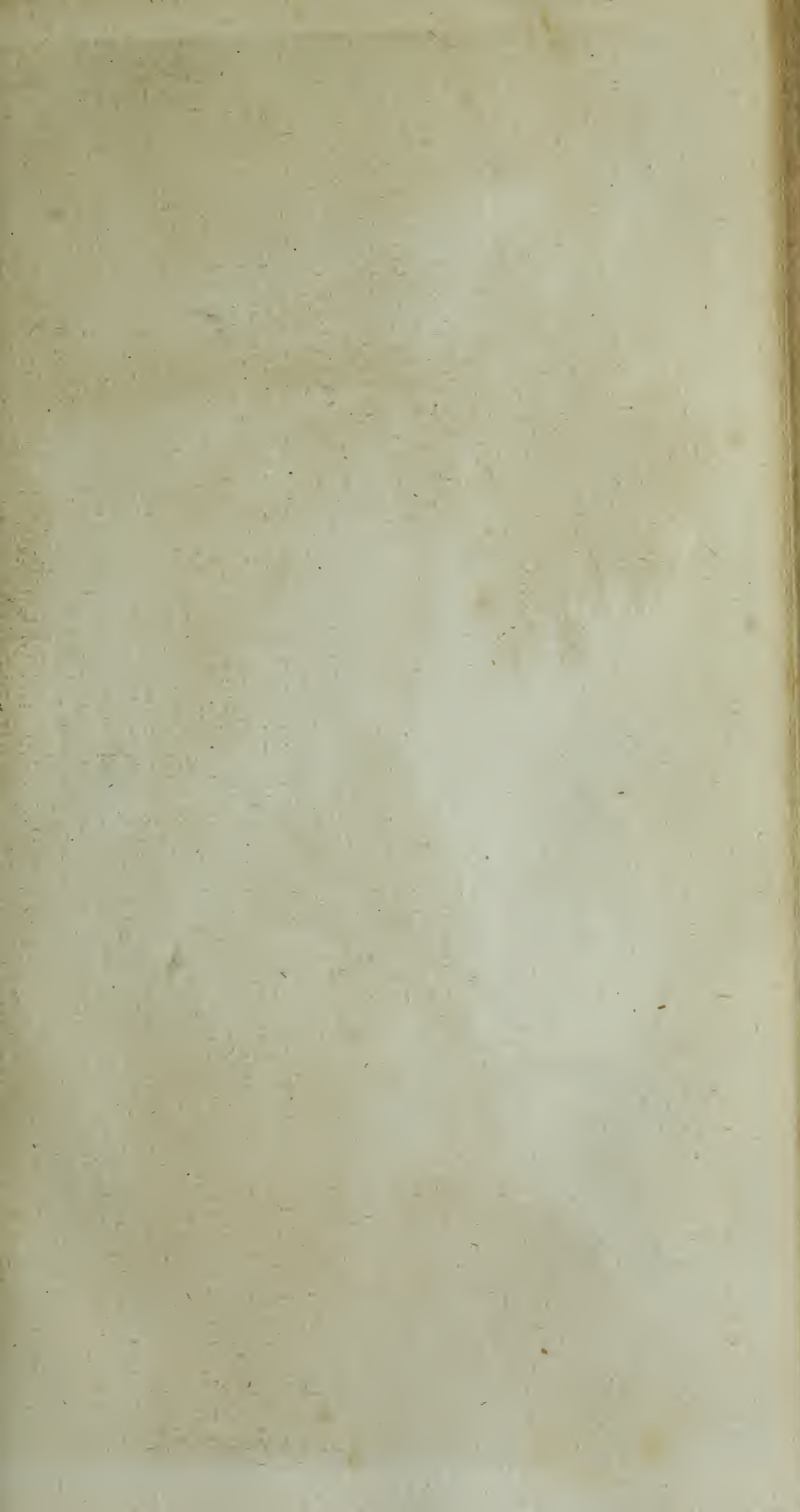






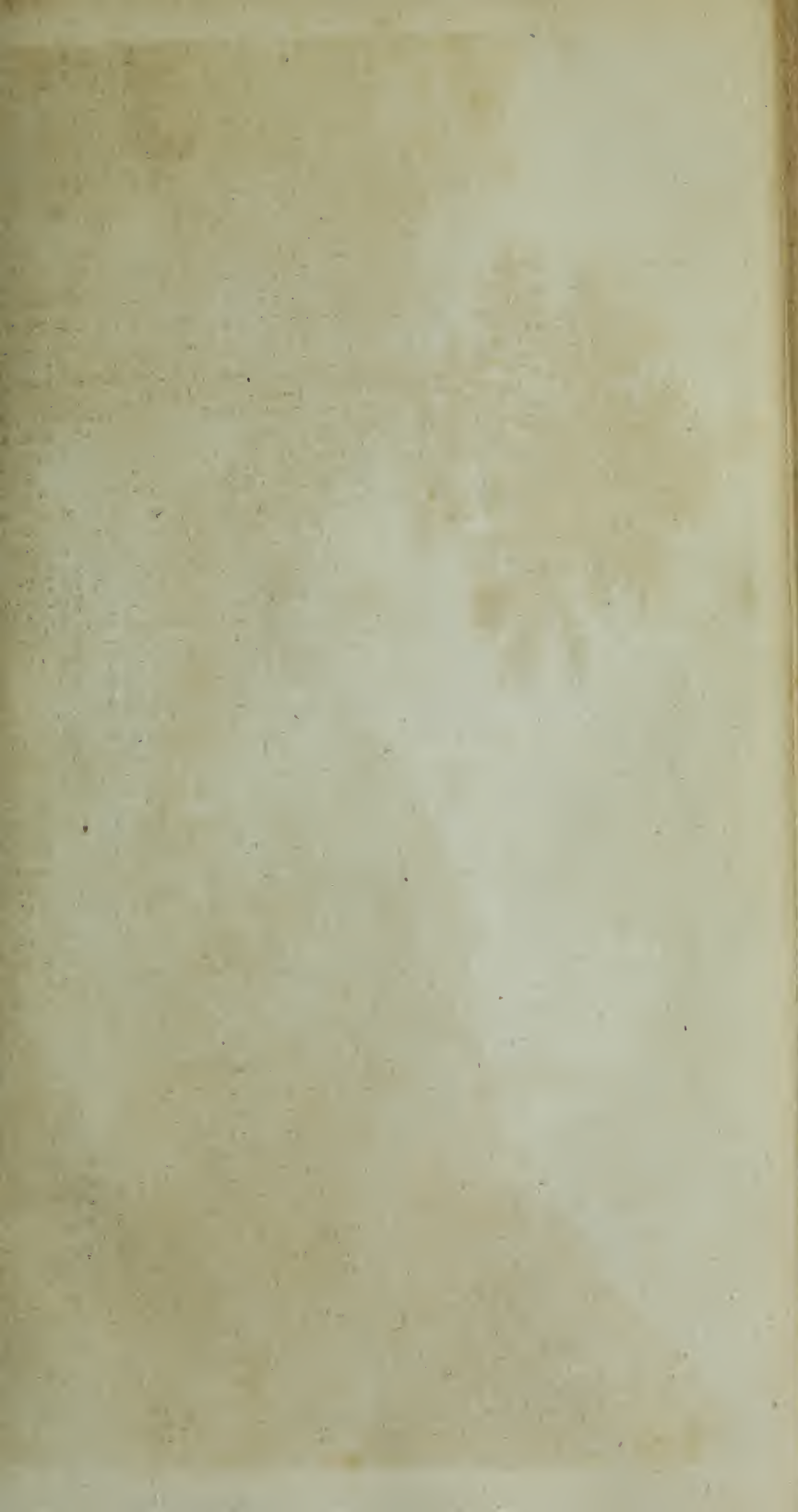




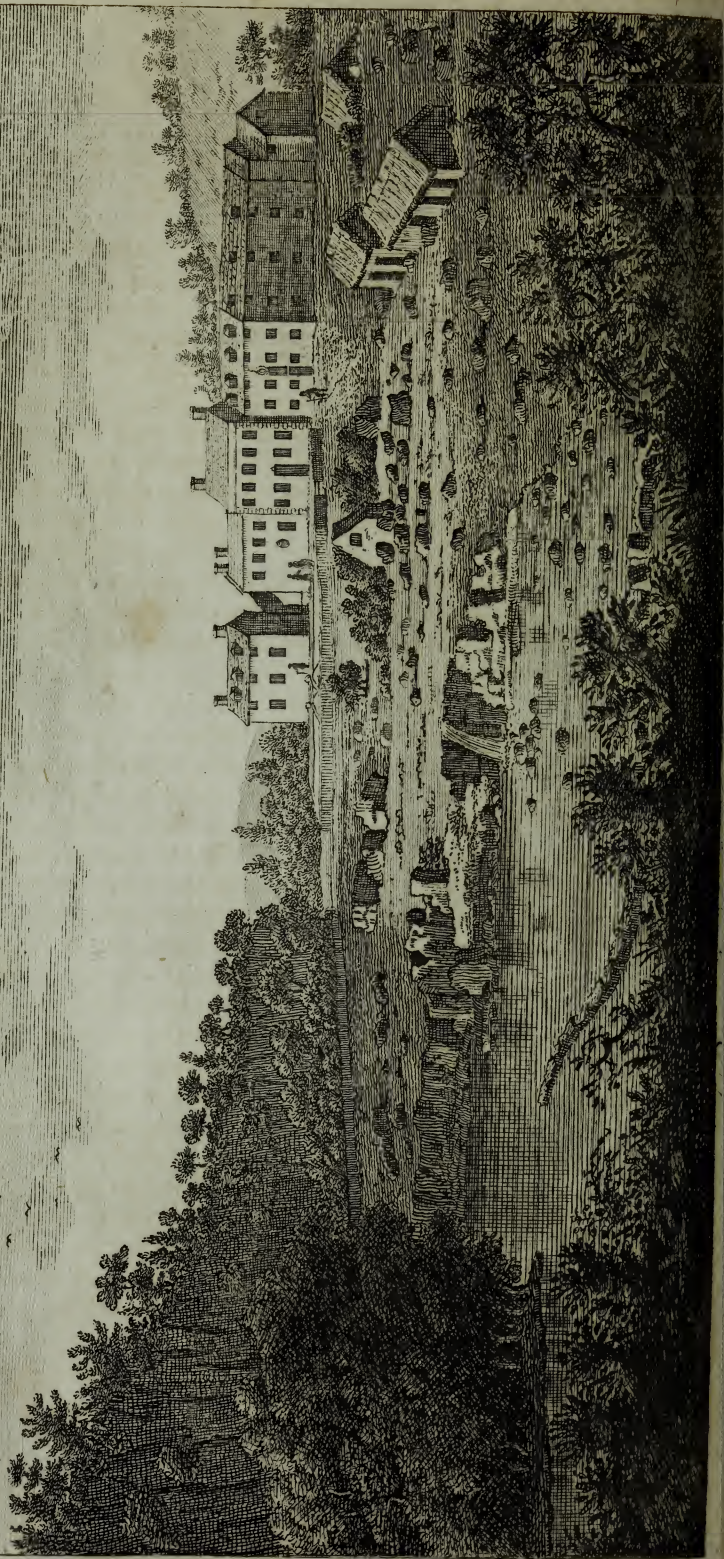














be very clear, the foundation of a bridge may be seen, which crossed it in this place.

*Dale Abbey* is a village near Derby, where there are still the remains of a stately monastery, which was founded soon after the Norman invasion.

*Melborn*, a village about five or six miles south-east of Derby, was formerly a royal mansion, and had a castle now an heap of ruins, where John Duke of Bourbon, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Agincourt, by King Henry the Fifth, was confined nineteen years, and then released by Henry the Sixth.

*Burgh*, a little village near Castleton, was frequented by the Romans, as appears from a causeway leading from it to Buxton baths, which appear to have been eminent in the time of the Romans.

*Matlock* is a most delightful village, and is much celebrated for its bath, to which many people resort in summer. It is situated near the river Derwent, and consists of a large range of elegant houses, built in the most uniform manner, with stables and out-houses. The bath is divided into two rooms, one for the gentlemen, and the other for the ladies, and over them are very convenient rooms for the use of those whose disorders oblige them to bathe frequently. The ladies bath is finely arched over with stone; and at one end of it are several convenient rooms, with apartments for the servants.

The assembly-room is on the right hand, and at the top is a music-room, to which you ascend by a grand staircase.

There is a fine terrace before the house, and near it a place where the gentlemen divert themselves in the evenings.— From this place there is a rocky shelf, descending to the river, which is extremely rapid, and runs with such a murmuring noise as fills the mind with a pleasing admiration. The perpendicular height of this rock, called *Matlock*, is one hundred and twenty yards; and on each side of it is a row of lofty elms, called *The Lover's Walk*.

The environs of Matlock Bath are equal, if not superior in natural beauty to any of the most finished places in the kingdom.



dom. They form a winding vale of about three miles, through which the river Derwent runs, whose course is extremely various; in some places the breadth is considerable, the stream smooth; in others it breaks upon the rocks and falls over the fragments, besides forming several small cascades. The boundaries of the vale are cultivated hills on one side, and very bold rocks with pendant woods on the other. The best tour of the place is to cross the river near the turnpike, and then take the winding path up the rock, which leads you to the range of fields at the top, bounded this way by the precipice, along which is a most delightful walk; and indeed it has been supposed to be the finest natural terrace in the world. At the top you may turn to the left till you come to the projecting point, called *Hag Rock*. From this spot you have a perpendicular view down a vast precipice to the river, which here forms a fine sheet of water, fringed with wood on the opposite side: it falls twice over the rocks, the roar of which adds to the effect of the scene. The valley is small, and bounded immediately by the hills which rise boldly from it, and are cut into enclosures, some of them a fine verdure, others scattered with rocks, and some full of wood, the variety pleasing. This whole view is very noble.—Advancing along the precipice, the views caught as you move through the straggling branches of the wood which grows on the edge of it, are very picturesque; in some places down on the water alone, in others into glens of wood, dark and gloomy, with spots here and there quite open, which let in various cheerful views of the dale and the cultivated hills. These continue till you come to an elm with divided branches, growing on the rocky edge of the precipice: it forms a natural ballustrade, over which you view a very noble scene. You command the river both ways, presenting several sheets of water, and falling four times over the rocks. To the left, the shore is hanging wood, from the precipice down to the very water's edge; but the rocks break from it in several places, their heads beautifully fringed with open wood, as if the projection was to exhibit a variety of shade on the back ground of the wood. At the top of the rocks, and quite surrounded with wood, two small grass inclosures are seen, divided by straggling trees; nothing can be more beautiful. The opposite side of the vale is formed by many hanging inclosures; and the higher boundary a  
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great variety of hills cut into fields. To the right the scene is different; the edging of the water is a thick stripe of wood, so close that the trees seem to grow from the water; they form a dark shade, under which the river is smooth. Above this wood appear some houses surrounded by several grass fields, beautifully shelving down among wild ground of wood and rock. Above the whole is a very noble hill, bare, but broken by rocky spots. Advancing you come to a projecting point, edged with small ash-trees, from which you have a smooth reach of the river through a thick dark wood—a most pleasing variation from the preceding scenes: and above it, to the right, a vast perpendicular rock, one hundred and fifty feet high, rising out of a dark wood; itself quite crowned with wood. The whole is very magnificent.—Turning another wave in the edge of the precipice, an opening in the shrubby wood presents a reach of the river with a very noble shore of hanging wood; the rock partly bare, but all in a dark shade of wood. A house or two, and a few inclosures, enliven the spot where the river is lost; all closely bounded by the great hill. This view is a complete picture.—Proceeding further, the woody edging of the rocks is so thick as to prevent any views; but from thence we are led to a point of rock higher than any of the preceding; which, being open, presents a full view of all the wonders of the valley. To the left, the river flows under a noble shore of hanging wood; and above the whole a vast range of inclosures, which rise one above another in the most beautiful manner. This point of view is high enough to command likewise a new vale behind the precipice: this ridge of rocky hill, shelving gently down, is in a fine waving vale of cultivated fields of a pleasing verdure, and bounded by the side of an extended bare hill. This double view renders the spot amazingly fine.—A few yards further we turn to the point of a very bold projection of the rock, which opens to new scenes; the river is seen both to the right and left, beautifully environed with thick woods. On the opposite hill four grass inclosures of fine verdure are skirted with trees, through the branches of which you see fresh shades of green—a pleasing contrast to the rocky wonders of the precipice. From hence the wood excludes the view for some distance, till you turn on to a point with a seat, called *Adam's Bench*; and as the rock here projects very much into the dale, it consequently gives



gives a full command of all the woody steps you have passed ; and a very noble scene it is. The range of hanging wood, almost perpendicular from the lofty rocky points down to the very water, is striking : the bare rocks in some places bulge out, but never without a skirt of open wood. The light through branches so growing from such lofty cliffs, has an effect truly picturesque. The immediate shore on the other side is wood, and higher up varied inclosures. On the whole, a nobler union of wood and water is scarcely to be imagined, Leaving the precipice, a walk cut in the rock leads to the bottom, where there is another made along the banks of the river, but parted from it by a thick edging of wood, and quite arched with trees. This shaded walk leads to a bench in view of a small cascade on the opposite side of the river. At a little distance from hence is an high-rock, which is worthy the attention of the curious traveller. The way to it is an agreeable walk, which gives several views. The rock is four hundred and fifty feet perpendicular ; the river directly below ; a fine smooth stream, giving a noble bend : opposite, a vast sweep of hill, which rises in the boldest manner, with a picturesque knot of inclosures in the middle of it : on one side a steep ridge of rock, on the other a varied precipice of rock and wood. You look down on the old bath, with a fine front of wood, and many varied waves of enclosures bounded by distant hills. Further on, on the same eminence, you come to a point of bare rock, from which you look down a precipice of five hundred feet absolutely perpendicular. The river breaking over fragments of the rocks, soars in a manner that adds to the sublimity of the scene. The shore of wood is very noble. From hence, following the edge of the precipice, you come to another point, from whence you have a double view of the river beneath, as it were in another region. To the left the great rock rises from the bosom of a vast wood in the boldest stile imaginable. Sinking a little to the right you have one of the noblest views imaginable : the river gives a fine bend through a narrow meadow of a beautiful verdure ; the boundaries of the vale ; woods hanging perpendicularly, and scattered with rocks. In the centre, a round hill rising out of wood in the midst of a vast sweep of inclosures, which hang to the eye in a most picturesque manner, has an effect astonishingly fine. In one place a steeple rises from





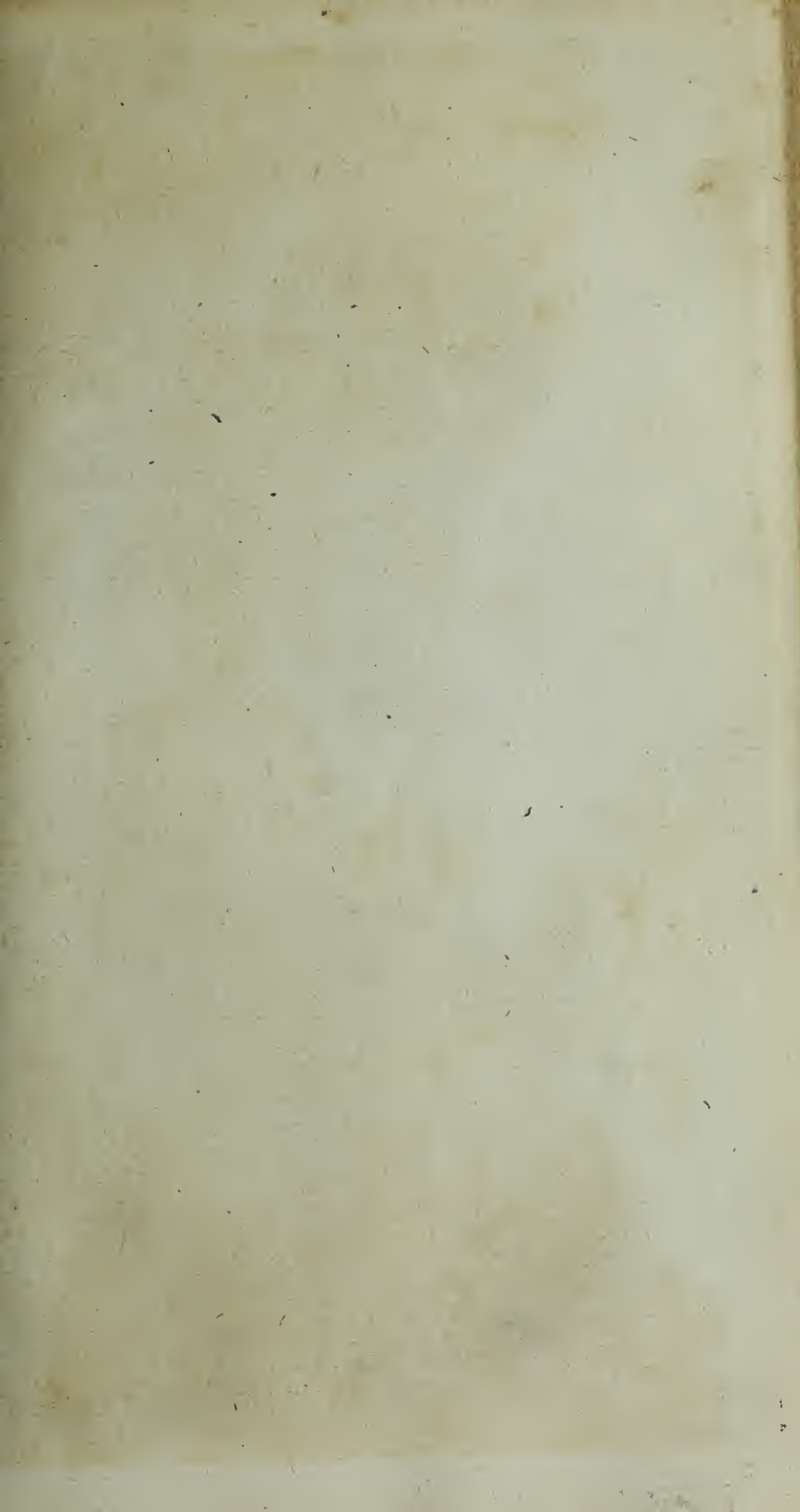








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from a knot of wood ; and a variety of scattered villages in others unite to render this scene truly admirable:

*Crumford* is a small village, near Matlock, which has a very romantic appearance.

About three miles from Ashborne, is a valley called *Dovedale*, which is a narrow winding glen among a variety of hills and rocks, through which the river Dove takes its course above two miles. It is bounded in a very romantic manner by hills, rocks, and hanging woods, which are extremely various, and the hills in particular of a very bold and striking character ; they spread on all sides in vast sweeps, inexpressibly magnificent, and are much more striking than any thing else in Dovedale. The rocks are in some places very romantic, rising in various shapes from banks of hill and wood, and forming a wild assemblage of really romantic objects ; but they are much exceeded in magnitude by others in different parts of the kingdom. The course of the river is various, from a gentle current to great rapidity over broken rocks, and in some places falls, but not in a bold manner : the fragments of rock in it, with branches of wood growing from it, are truly romantic and picturesque.

There are also some pleasing and romantic views in *Monsal Dale*, on the river Wye.





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## D E V O N S H I R E.

**T**HIS county is bounded by the English Channel on the south, by the Bristol Channel on the north, by Cornwall on the west, and by Somersetshire on the east. It is about sixty-nine miles in length from south to north, sixty-six miles in breadth, from east to west, and two hundred miles in circumference.

The air of this county is mild in the vallies, and sharp on the hills, but in general it is pleasant and healthy. The soil is various; in the western part it is coarse, moorish, and barren, and in many places a stiff clay, which the water cannot penetrate; it is therefore bad for sheep, which are here not only small, but much subject to the rot, especially in wet seasons. This part of the county is however happily adapted to the breeding of fine oxen, which the Somersetshire drovers purchase in great numbers and fatten for the London markets.—In the northern parts of this county the soil is dry, and abounds with downs, which afford excellent pasture for sheep; and which, being well dressed with lime, dung, and sand, yields good crops of corn, though not equal to those produced in the middle parts of the county, where there is a rich marle for manuring the ground, and in others a fertile sandy soil.—In the eastern parts the soil is strong, of a deep red, intermixed with loam, and produces great crops of corn, and the best pease in the kingdom.—This county is famous for producing good cyder; and there are a few villages northwest of Dartmouth, called *South Hams*, which are famous for an excellent rough cyder, said to be the best in the kingdom, and so much of the nature of wine, that the vintners mix it with port. The soil here being a reddish sand, produces also the best cabbages and carrots in the kingdom; nor does this part of our island fall short in pasture and meadow ground, for the most barren places are rendered fruitful by a shell sand, such as that used in Cornwall; and in places

remote from the sea, where this sand cannot easily be got, the turf, or surface of the ground, is shaved off and burnt to ashes, which is a good succedaneum. This method of agriculture, used first in Devonshire, has been practised in other counties, where it is called *Denshiring* the land, a name which sufficiently denotes whence it was borrowed.—The southern part of this county is by much the most fertile, and is therefore called *The Garden of Devonshire*.

The principal rivers in this county are the Tamar and the Ex. The course of the Tamar has been described in the account of Cornwall. The Ex rises in a barren tract of country called *Exmoor*, situate partly in Devonshire and partly in Somersetshire, near the Bristol Channel, and runs directly south. After being joined by several less considerable rivers, it passes through Exeter, and after a course of about nine miles to the south-east, falls into the English Channel in a very large stream. There are in this county so many considerable rivers, besides the Tamar and the Ex, that there are in it more than one hundred and fifty bridges. Of these rivers the chief are the Tave, the Lad, the Oke, the Tame, the Torridge, and the Dart. These rivers produce plenty of excellent salmon.

There are in this county mines of lead, tin, and silver. There has indeed been very little tin dug up here of late times; yet in the reign of King John, when the tin coinage for the county of Cornwall was farmed but at 66l. 18s. 4d. a year, that of Devonshire let at 100l. and though the silver mines are not now regarded, yet in the year 1293, they yielded no less than three hundred and seventy pounds weight of fine silver; in the following year they produced five hundred and twenty-one pounds weight, and in the next year seven hundred pounds.—Veins of loadstone are also found here, and quarries of good stone for building, and also of slate for covering houses, of which last article great quantities are exported.

The chief manufactures of this county are kerseys, serges, long-ells, shalloons, narrow cloths, and bone-lace, in which, and in corn, cattle, wool, and sea fish, the inhabitants carry on a considerable trade.

This county lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Exeter, is divided into thirty-three hundreds, and contains one city, thirty-seven market-towns, and three hundred and ninety-four parishes. Of the towns, Ashburton, Ply-



mouth, and Tavistock, are stannary towns; and there is a fourth stannary town in this county, which is Chagford, a small inconsiderable place, near Moreton. A *stannary town* is one in which is kept a stannary court that determines the differences concerning mines and among miners, or such as work in digging or purifying tin.

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## C I T Y.

EXCESTER, or EXETER, is a famous and ancient city, the metropolis and emporium of the west of England: Its name is a contraction of *Excester*, which signifies a *castle on the Ex*. The Ex is the Isca, mentioned by Ptolemy; and the city of Exeter is the Isca Danmoniorum of the ancients. This city was for some time the seat of the West Saxon Kings; and the walls, which now inclose it, were built by King Athelstan, who encompassed it also with a ditch. He it was who first gave it the name of Exeter, (it having before then been called Monkton, from the great number of monasteries in it) after driving the Britons that inhabited it into Cornwall.

The *Castle of Rougemont*, in this city, is supposed to have been built by the West Saxon Kings, and to have been the place of their residence: It has its name from the red soil it stands in, where there is a pleasant prospect, from a beautiful terrace walk, with a double row of fine elms, of the Channel ten miles to the south. The city is pleasantly situated on a little hill among many hills; and so declines on the south and west, that be the streets ever so foul, a shower of rain makes them sweet.

Exeter is one hundred and seventy-one miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, twenty-four aldermen, four bailiffs, a recorder, a chamberlain, a town clerk, a sheriff, and four stewards; and the magistrates, at all public processions, are attended by a sword-bearer, four serjeants at mace, and as many staff-bearers. There are thirteen city companies, each of which is governed by officers, chosen yearly among them. The mayor, or his officers, hear, try, and determine, all pleas and civil causes, with the advice of the recorder, aldermen, and common council of the city; but criminal and crown causes are determined by eight aldermen, who are justices of  
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the peace. This city anciently had a mint; and as late as the reign of William the Third, silver was coined in it, which is distinguished by the letter E placed under the King's bust.

Exeter is a bishop's see, and is one of the first cities in England, as well on account of its buildings and wealth, as its extent, and the number of its inhabitants. Including its suburbs, it is two miles in circumference, and is encompassed with a stone wall, in good repair, and fortified with turrets. It has six gates, and four principal streets, all centering in the middle of the city, which is therefore called Carfox, from the old Norman word *Quatrevoix*, i. e. *the four ways*; one of these is called the High-street, and is very spacious and grand. Here is a very handsome stone bridge over the the river Ex. This city is well supplied with water, brought from the neighbourhood in pipes to several conduits; and there is one grand conduit, erected by William Duke, who was mayor of this city in the reign of Edward the Fourth.—In the guildhall of this city are pictures of General Monk, and the Princess Henrietta Maria, daughter to Charles the First, who was born here.

There are sixteen churches, besides chapels, and five large meeting-houses, within the walls of this city, and four without. The cathedral, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is a curious and magnificent fabric, and though it was above four hundred years in building, it looks as uniform as if it had had but one architect. It is vaulted throughout, is three hundred and ninety feet long, and seventy-four broad: It has a ring of ten bells, reckoned the largest in England, one of them weighing twelve thousand five hundred pounds, and is considerably larger than Great Tom of Lincoln. It has a very noble painted window, and also an organ, the greatest pipe of which is fifteen inches in diameter. The Dean and chapter have their houses round the cathedral, which form a circus, called the Close, because it is inclosed, and separated from the city by walls and gates. Within this inclosure are two churches for the service of the cathedral. The dean, chapter, chancellor, and treasurer, are the four dignitaries of this cathedral; and to these are added the four arch-deacons of Exeter, Totnes, Barnstaple, and Cornwall. In this city and its suburbs are prisons for debtors and malefactors, a work-house, alms-houses, and charity-schools; and in 1741 an hospital



hospital was founded here, for the sick and lame poor of the city and county, upon the model of the infirmaries of London and Westminster.

About a mile and half without the East Gate of Exeter, is the parish of Heavy-Tree, so called from the gallows erected there for malefactors, and near it is a burial place for them, purchased in the reign of Edward the Sixth, by the widow of Mr. Tuckfield, sheriff of Exeter, who also left money to procure them shrouds.

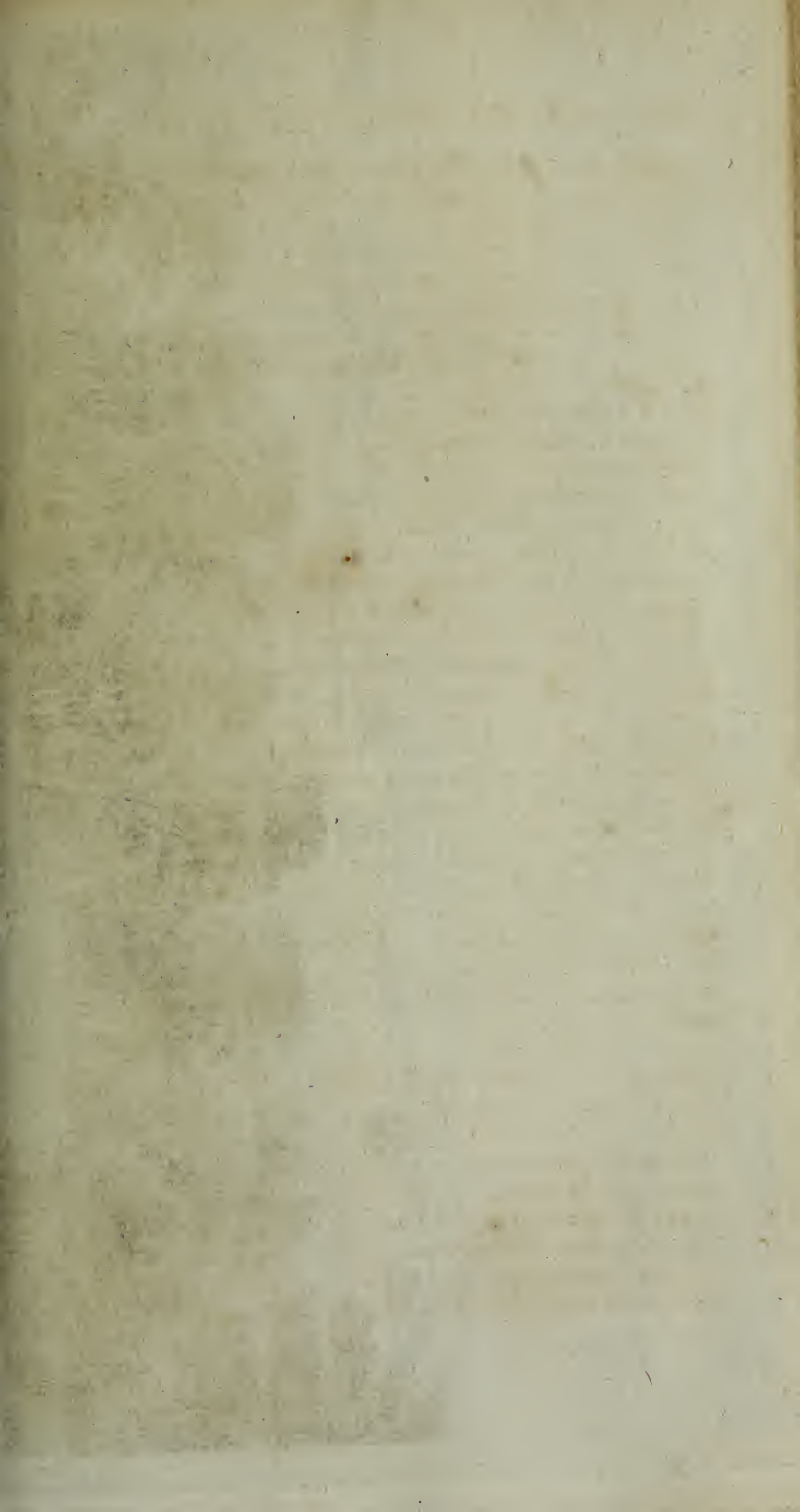
This city suffered greatly by the resentment of Henry Courtney, Earl of Devonshire. This nobleman, to revenge the disappointment of some fish from the market, by weirs choaked up the river below Exeter, which before brought up ships to the city walls, so as entirely to obstruct the navigation of it. This injury has however in a great measure been remedied by the chearful contributions of the inhabitants, under the sanction of an act of parliament, for a channel is cut here, which, by the contrivance of sluices and gates, admits the largest barges, and vessels of one hundred and fifty tons come up to the quay.

Such is the trade of this city in serges, perpetuanas, long-ells, druggets, kerseys, and other woollen goods, that it is computed at six hundred thousand pounds a year at least. There is a serge market kept weekly here, which is said to be the greatest in all England, next to the Brigg-market at Leeds, in Yorkshire; and as much serge is frequently bought up at this market as amounts to sixty thousand, eighty thousand, or one hundred thousand pounds; for besides the vast quantities of woollen goods usually shipped for Portugal, Spain, and Italy, the Dutch give large commissions for buying up serges, perpetuanas, and other woollen stuffs, for Holland and Germany.

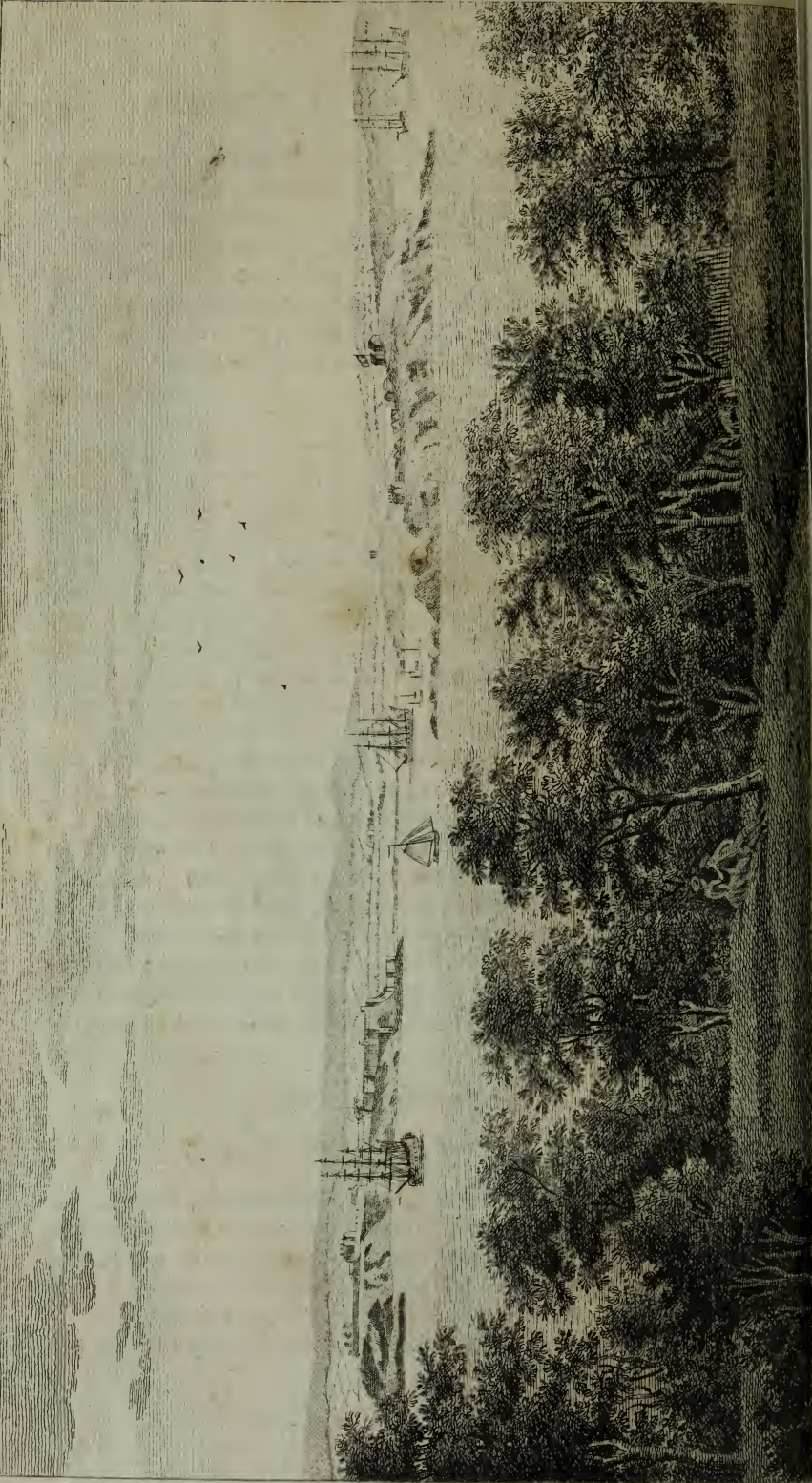
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## MARKET-TOWNS.

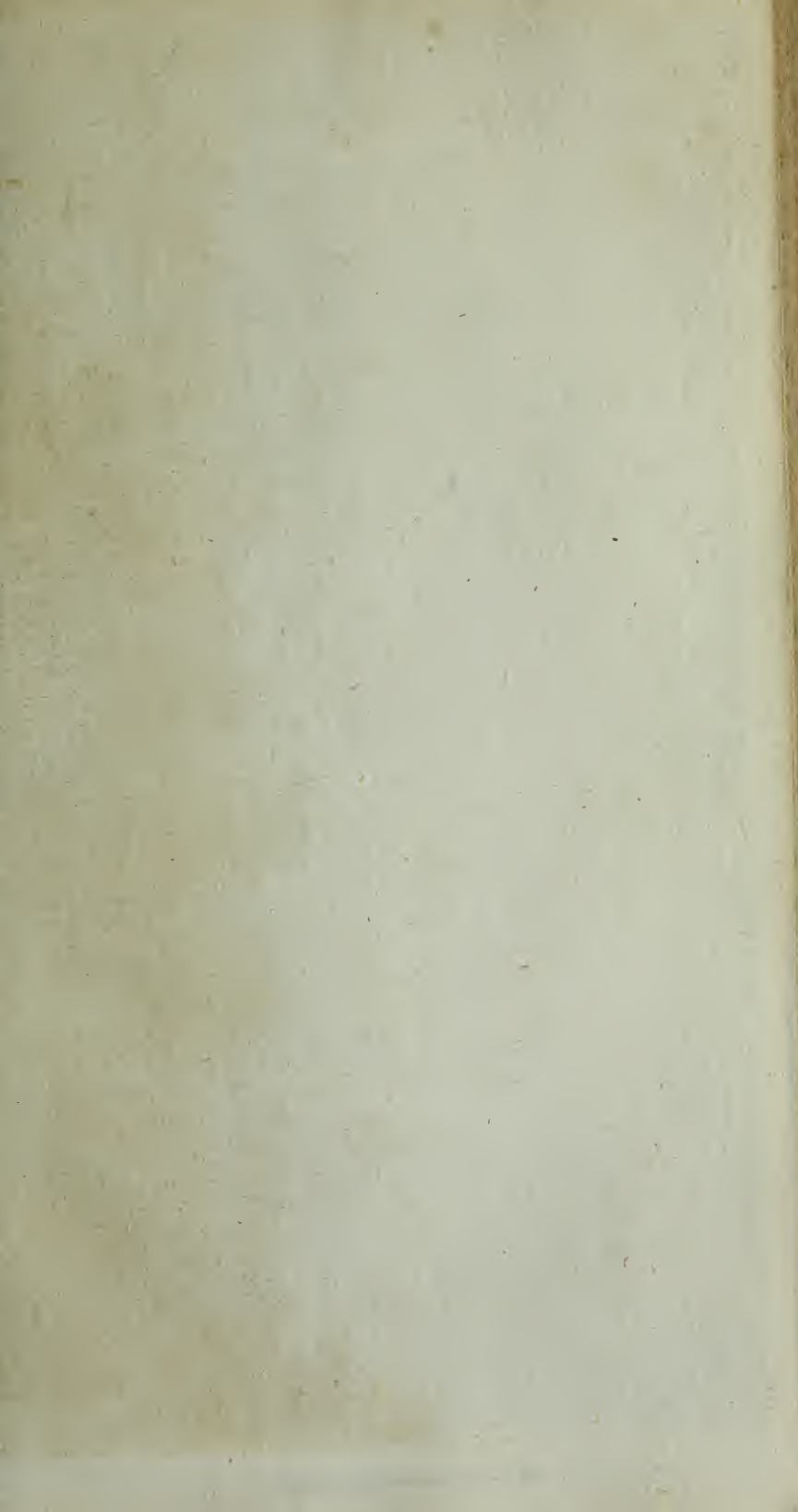
PLYMOUTH was anciently called *Sutton*, i. e. *South Town*, and it appears to have been divided into two parts, one called *South Prior*, because it belonged to the priory of Plympton, and the other *Sutton Vautort*, because it belonged to the family of that name: and in the time of the Saxon Heptarchy, the whole town was known by the name of *Tamerworth*.



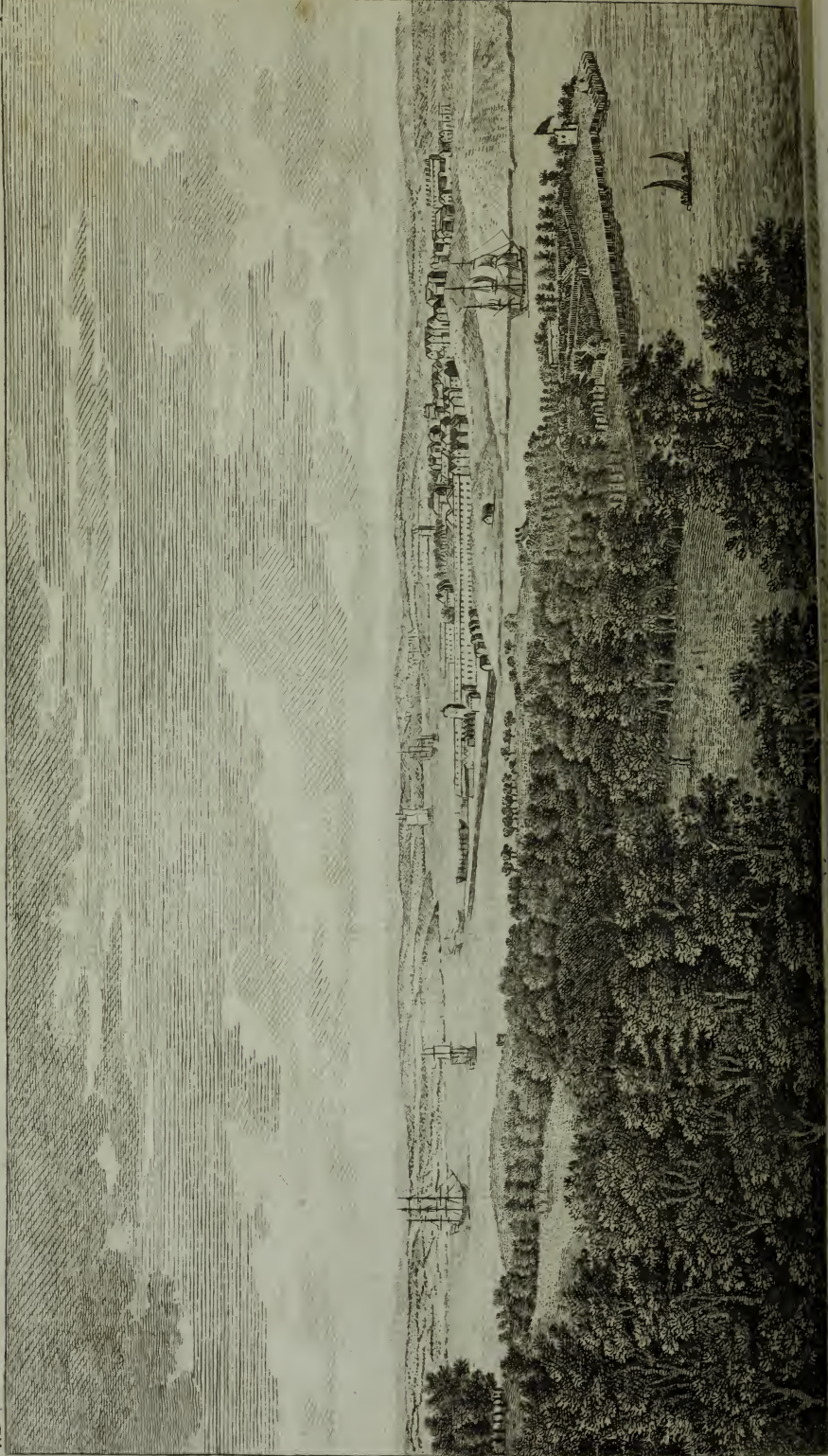




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worth. Plymouth derives its present name from its situation upon a small river called the Plym, which at a little distance falls into a bay of the English Channel called Plymouth Sound, on one side of the town, as the Tamar does on the other.

This town is two hundred and fifteen miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, twenty-four common councilmen, a recorder, and a town clerk, whose place is very profitable. The mayor is elected thus : The mayor in office, and the aldermen, chuse two persons, and the common council chuse other two ; these four persons, whom they call alsurers, appoint a jury of thirty-six persons, which jury elects the new mayor ; the officiating mayor, his predecessor, and the two senior aldermen, are justices of the peace.

Plymouth, from a small fishing town, is become the largest in the county, and is said to contain near as many inhabitants as the city of Exeter. Its port, which consists of two harbours capable of containing a thousand sail, has rendered it one of the chief magazines in England. It is defended by several forts, mounted with near three hundred guns, and particularly by a strong citadel, erected in the reign of Charles the Second, before the mouth of the harbour. This citadel, which stands opposite to St. Nicholas-Island, (which is within the circuit of its walls) include at least two acres of ground, has five regular bastions, contains a large magazine of stores, and mounts one hundred and fifty six guns. The inlet of the sea, which runs some miles up the country, at the mouth of the Tamar, is called the Hamoaze : and that which receives the Plym is called Catwater. About two miles up the Hamoaze are two docks, one wet and the other dry, with a bason two hundred feet square ; they are hewn out of a mine of slate, and lined with Portland stone. The dry dock is formed after the model of a first rate man of war ; and the wet dock will contain five first rates. The docks and bason were constructed in the reign of William the Third ; and in this place there are conveniencies of all kinds for building and repairing ships ; and the whole forms as complete, though not so large an arsenal, as any in the kingdom. The ships that are homeward bound generally put into this port for pilots to carry them up the Channel ; and in time of war,



war, the convoys for ships outward bound, generally rendezvous here.

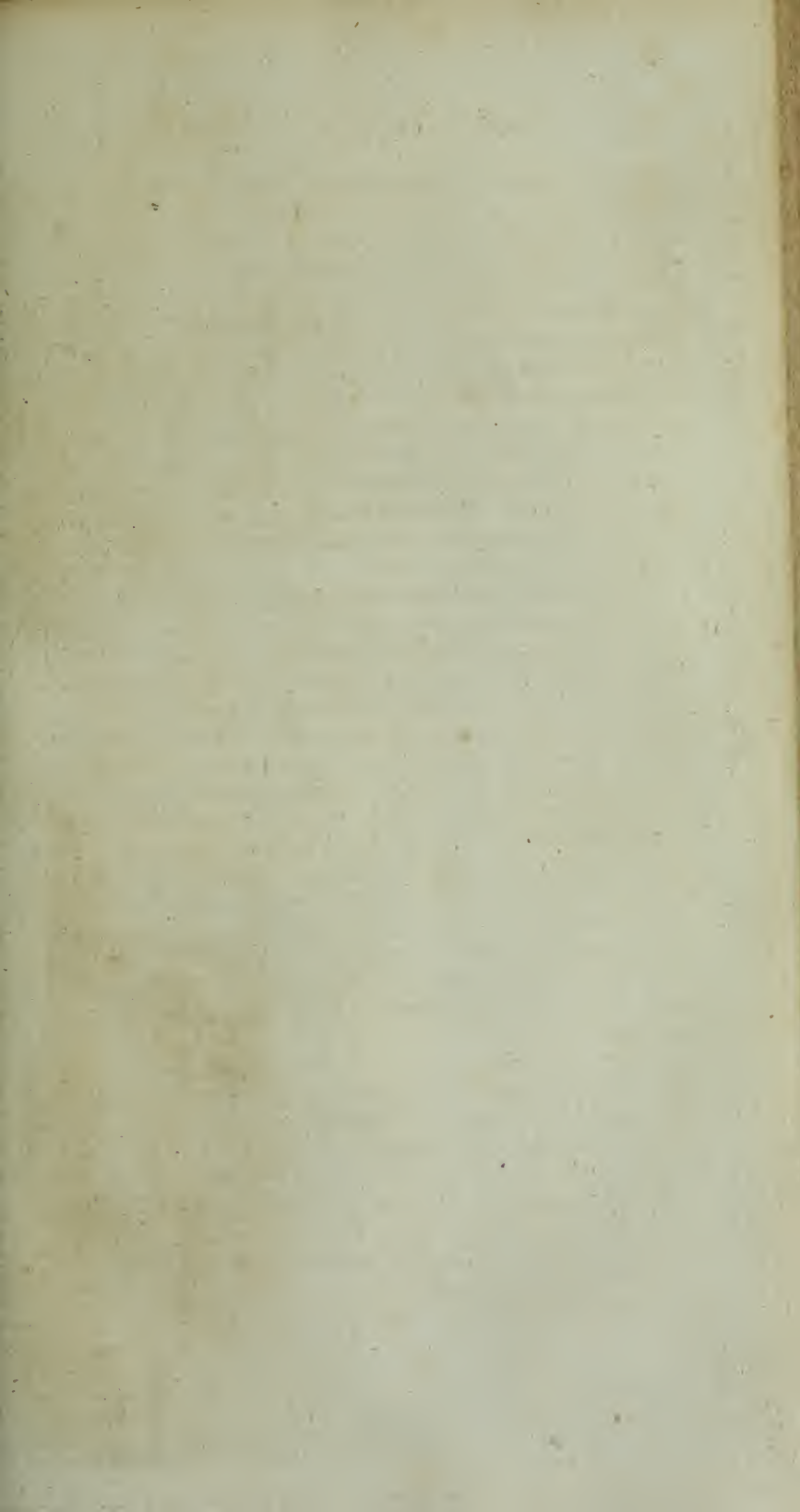
Here are two handsome, large, and well-built parish churches, one dedicated to St. Andrew, and the other to the memory of Charles the First, which, though there are several meeting-houses, have each so large a cure of souls, that the parish clerks, formerly, took deacon's orders to enable them to perform the sacerdotal functions; the profits of the pews go to the poor.—Here is a charity-school, four hospitals, and a workhouse, in all which above one hundred poor children are cloathed, fed, and taught. Colonel Jory gave a charity to one of the hospitals for twelve poor widows; he gave also a mace worth one hundred and twenty pounds, to be carried before the mayor; likewise six good bells to Charles's church, valued at five hundred pounds.

This town, till Queen Elizabeth's time, suffered great inconveniencies from the want of fresh water, but is now well supplied by a spring seven miles off; the water of which was brought hither at the expence of Sir Francis Drake, who was a native of this place.—The town has a custom-house, and there is also a good pilchard fishery on the coast, and a considerable trade to the Streights and West Indies.

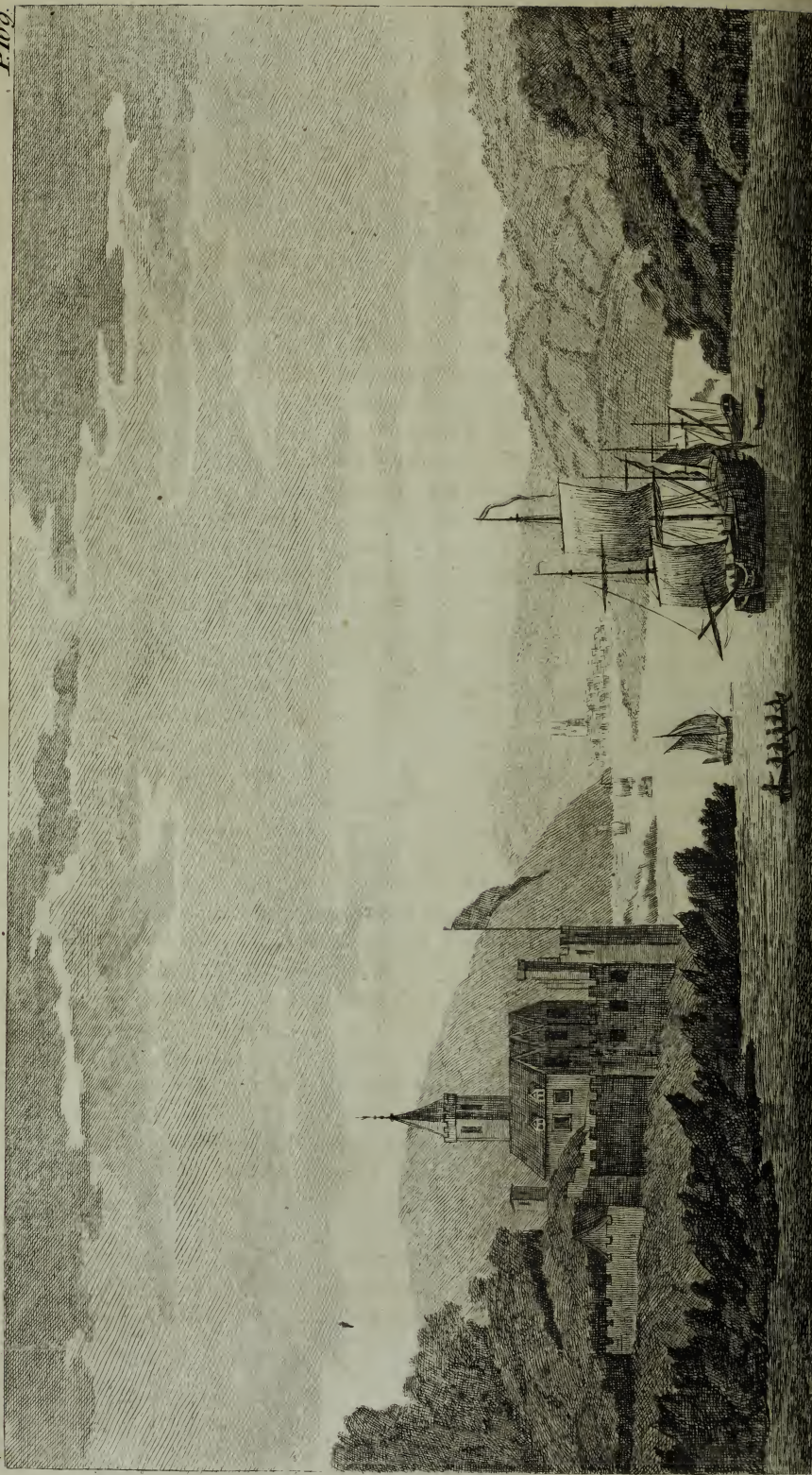
In the entrance of Plymouth Sound there is a rock, called *Edystone Rock*, which is covered at high water, and on which a light-house was built by one Winstanley, in 1696. This light-house was thrown down by a hurricane that happened in 1703; and the ingenious builder, with several other persons that were in it, perished in the ruins. Another light-house however was erected in pursuance of an act of parliament of the fifth of Queen Anne; that too has been destroyed; but another has since been erected, under the inspection of Mr. Smeaton.

Between Plymouth and the sea, there is a hill called *The Hoe*, that has a delightful plain upon the top, from which there is a pleasant prospect all round, and on which there is a curious compass for the use of mariners.

DARTMOUTH is so called from its situation at the mouth of the river Dart. It is two hundred and three miles from London, and is a corporation, originally formed out of three distinct towns, Dartmouth, Clifton, and Hardness; it had the name of *Clifton* from the cliffs on which most of the houses







houses were built, and out of which many of them were dug. It is governed by a mayor, twelve masters or magistrates, twelve common-councilmen, a recorder, two bailiffs, a town-clerk, and high-steward. The town-clerk and high-steward are chosen by the mayor and magistrates, who have a power also to make freemen; the mayor, bailiffs and a coroner, are chosen yearly. Here is a court of session, and a water bailiff-wick court, holden by a lease from the dutchy of Cornwall for three lives, and for which fourteen pounds a year chief rent is paid.

This town, which is a mile long, stands on the side of a craggy hill, a situation which makes the streets very irregular, rising in some places one above another, yet the houses are generally very high. Here are three churches, besides a large dissenting meeting-house; but the mother-church is at a village called *Townstal*, about three quarters of a mile from Dartmouth. This church stands on a hill, and the tower of it, which is sixty-nine feet high, is a sea mark.

Dartmouth has a harbour, where five hundred sail of ships may ride safe in a basin; it is defended by three castles, besides forts and block-houses, and its entrance, may upon occasion, be shut up by a chain. Here is a large quay, and a spacious street before it, inhabited chiefly by merchants, who carry on a considerable trade to Portugal and the plantations, but especially to Newfoundland, and from thence to Italy with fish. Here also is the greatest pilchard fishery of any part of the west, except Falmouth, in Cornwall; and the shipping and trade of this town in general were the most considerable of any in the county, except Exeter, till Plymouth's increase in both.—By a grant of Edward the Third the burgesses of this town are toll free throughout all England; and in the reign of Richard the Second they obtained the exclusive right of exporting tin.

*Dartmouth Castle* is very ancient; for there has been a chapel in it ever since the time of Edward the Third, and belongs to Stoke-Fleming church, which is two miles off; but the stone tower and spire were built by the inhabitants not many years ago.

BIDEFORD, or BEDIFORD, i. e. *by the ford*, is thus called from its situation on the river Torridge, which a little farther north joins the river Taw, and falls with it into that



part of the British Channel called *Barnstaple Bay*. It is two hundred and two miles from London, and is governed by a mayor and aldermen, a recorder, a town-clerk, with serjeants and other officers. It has a particular court, in which civil actions of any sort are brought and determined for any sum. It is a clean, well built, and populous town, and has a street three quarters of a mile long, running parallel to the river, with a noble quay and custom-house, where ships can load and unload, in the very heart of the town. Here is also another street of considerable length, and as broad as the High-street of Exeter, with good buildings, inhabited by wealthy merchants. This town has a large church and an handsome meeting-house; it has also a very fine bridge over the Torridge, which was built in the fourteenth century, on twenty-four beautiful and stately Gothic arches; the foundation is still firm, yet it shakes at the slightest step of a horse. The merchants of this town send fleets yearly to the West Indies, Virginia, Newfoundland, and Ireland, from whence it is an established port for wool, as well as Barnstaple. Forty or fifty sail belonging to this port have been yearly employed to bring cod from Newfoundland, and other fleets are sent to Liverpool and Warrington for rock salt, which is dissolved here by sea water into brine, and then boiled up into a new salt: this is justly called *salt upon salt*, and is used in curing herrings, which are taken up here in great quantities.

HONITON stands near a small river called the *Otter*, at the distance of one hundred and fifty-five miles from London, and in the road from London to Exeter. It is an ancient borough by prescription, and is governed by a portreeve, who is chosen yearly at the court of the lord of the manor. It is situated in the best and most pleasant part of the whole county, abounding with corn and pasture, and commanding a view of the adjacent country, which is perhaps the most beautiful landscape in the world. It has a bridge over the Otter, and is a populous well built town, consisting chiefly of one long street, remarkably well paved with pebbles, through which runs a small channel of clear water, with a little square dipping place at every door. The parish church stands half a mile above the town upon a hill, which was formerly difficult and troublesome to ascend on foot, so that the gentry used to go to church on horseback or in coaches; and

stables were built near the church to accommodate them; but in 1743, a new chapel was built in this town. A charity school for thirty boys was opened here at Christmas 1713; and about a quarter of a mile out of town, on the east side of the road to Exeter, there is an hospital with a handsome chapel, which was founded and endowed for four lepers, by one Thomas Chard, an abbot. The governor and patients are put in by the rector, church-wardens, and overseers of the parish; and by a regulation made in 1642, other poor persons are admitted as well as lepers. The first serge manufacture in Devonshire was in this town, but it is now much employed in the manufacture of lace, which is made broader here than any where else in England, and of which great quantities are sent to London. A dreadful fire happened here on the 19th of July, 1747, by which three fourths of the town was consumed, and damage done to the value of forty-three thousand pounds.

TIVERTON, or TWYFORD TOWN, is so called from its situation near two fords, which were formerly at this place, one over the river Ex, and the other over a small river called the Loman, where there are now two stone bridges. It is situated between these two rivers, and near their conflux, and is one hundred and sixty-six miles from London. It is governed by a mayor, twelve principal burgessees, and twelve inferior burgessees or assistants, a recorder, and a clerk of the peace. The mayor, by its charter of incorporation, granted by King James the First, is gaol-keeper, and the gaol delivery is to be holden before him and the recorder. Here is a church, wherein there was formerly a chapel, built by the Earls of Devonshire, for their burial place. In this chapel, which is now demolished, there was a monument erected for Edward Courtney, Earl of Devonshire, and his Countess, with their effigies in alabaster. It was richly gilded and inscribed as follows:

- “ Ho, ho, who lies here?
- “ ’Tis I, the good Earl of Devonshire,
- “ With Kate, my wife, to me full dear;
- “ We liv’d together 55 year.
- “ That we spent, we had;
- “ That we left, we lost;
- “ That we gave, we have.”



Here is also a chapel, which by an act of parliament passed in 1733, is made a perpetual cure; but the great ornament and advantage of this town is a noble large free-school, founded by Mr. Peter Blundel, a clothier, and native of this place, who gave two thousand pounds for lands to maintain six scholars at Oxford and Cambridge, to be elected from this school; they are now eight, and placed at Baliol college in Oxford, and at Sidney college in Cambridge: he also left an allowance for a yearly feast there on St. Peter's day, in remembrance of him. Here are also two alms-houses. There is in this place the greatest woollen manufacture in the county, except that of Exeter, and, except that city, it is the largest, if not the most populous, of all the inland towns in Devonshire. Tiverton is remarkable for its sufferings by fire: on the 3d of April, 1598, the market day, a fire broke out, which burnt so furiously, that the whole town, consisting of more than six hundred houses, was consumed, and nothing but the church and two alms-houses escaped. It was scarcely rebuilt, when it was again totally destroyed by fire on the 5th of August, 1612; and on the 5th of June, 1731, another terrible fire happened here, which destroyed two hundred of the best houses in the place, and most of the manufactures. The loss upon this occasion was computed at one hundred and fifty thousand pounds; and the year following the parliament passed an act for re-building the town, which act also established some useful regulations for the prevention of future fires.

BARNSTAPLE is a name compounded of the British word *bar*, which signifies *the mouth of a river*, and the Saxon word *staple*, which denotes *a mart of trade*. It is one hundred and ninety-three miles from London, and is pleasantly situated among hills, in the form of a semi-circle, a river called the *Taw*, being the chord of the arch. It had walls formerly, with a castle, and enjoyed the liberties of a city; but having lost those privileges, it was incorporated by a charter of Queen Mary, and is governed by a mayor, twenty-four common-councilmen, of whom two are aldermen, a high-steward, a recorder, a deputy recorder, and other officers. The streets are clean and well paved, and the houses chiefly of stone. It has a fair stone bridge over the river Taw of sixteen arches, and a paper mill. Here are two charity-schools.

Barnstaple

Barnstaple had formerly a haven, in which the water became at last so shallow, though at spring tides the neighbouring fields are overflowed, that most of the trade removed to Bideford; yet it has still some merchants, and a considerable traffic to America and to Ireland, from whence it is an established port for landing wool; it carries on also a considerable trade with the serge-makers of Tiverton and Exeter, who come up hither to buy shad-fish, wool, and yarn.

COMB-MARTIN lies upon the British Channel, at the distance of one hundred and eighty-one miles from London. Here is a cove for landing of boats. The adjacent soil not only produces plenty of the best hemp in the country, but has been famous for mines of tin and lead. The lead mines, in the reign of King Edward the First, being found to have some veins of silver, three hundred and thirty-seven men were brought from Derby to work them, and the produce was of great service to Edward the Third in his war with France. Nevertheless they were neglected till Queen Elizabeth's reign, when Sir Beavis Bulmer, a virtuoso in refining metals, had them wrought, and extracted great quantities of silver from them, of which he caused two cups to be made, and presented one to the Earl of Bath, and the other, probably the least, weighing one hundred and thirty-seven ounces, to Sir Richard Martin, lord mayor of London. A new adit was dug here some years ago, which cost five thousand pounds, but the mines have not been wrought since.

PLYMPTON derives its name from the river Plym. It is situated upon a small stream that runs into that river, and is called *Plympton Maurice*, or *Earl's Plympton*, to distinguish it from Plympton St. Mary, a village half a mile distant. It is two hundred and nine miles from London, and was incorporated in Queen Elizabeth's reign, under a mayor, recorder, eight aldermen or principal burgesses, who are called common-council-men, a bailiff, and town-clerk. This is a stannary town: it is populous, but consists chiefly of two streets with ordinary buildings. It has one of the best free-schools in the county, being endowed with lands to the amount of one hundred pounds a year, and built on stone pillars in 1664, by Sir John Maynard, one of the trustees of Elizeus Hele, Esq; of Cornwood, near Plymouth, who gave one thousand  
five



five hundred pounds a year to such uses. Near the west end of this town is the guildhall, standing also on some pillars, where the corn market is kept.

ASHBURTON is one hundred and ninety miles from London. It is an ancient borough by prescription, and is governed by a chief magistrate, called a portreeve, who is chosen yearly at the courts of the lords of the manor, and is the returning officer at elections for members in parliament. This town has only one good street, but that is of considerable length. It has, however, a handsome church, in the form of a cathedral, adorned with a tower of ninety-one feet high, on which is a spire of lead. This church has a large chancel, with several stalls in it, as in collegiate churches. It has also a chapel, which is used for a school, as well as for the parish meetings, and the elections of its members in parliament. Ashburton stands upon the river Dart, and is a great thoroughfare in the road from London to the Land's End in Cornwall, being about half way between Exeter and Plymouth. This is a stannary town, and is remarkable for its mines of tin and copper, and a manufacture of serge.

ILFORDCOMBE, or ILFRACOMB, is situated on the British Channel, and is one hundred and eighty-six miles from London. It is governed by a mayor, bailiffs, and other officers. It is a rich populous town, and consists chiefly of one street of scattered houses, almost a mile long. It is noted for maintaining constant lights to direct ships at sea; for its great conveniencies for building and repairing ships, and for a harbour and pier, which afford secure shelter to ships from Ireland, when it would be extremely dangerous for them to run into the mouth of the Taw, commonly known by the name of Barnstaple Bay, which is the next harbour. This advantage of the harbour has induced the merchants of Barnstaple to transact much of their business here, where the trade, and particularly the herring fishery, is very considerable. In 1731, the harbour and pier being much decayed by length of time, and the violence of the seas, an act of parliament passed for repairing and enlarging them.

AXMISTER, or AXMINSTER, derives its name partly from its situation upon the river Axe, and partly from a minster, established

established in this place by King Athelstan, for seven priests, to pray for the departed souls of some persons buried here, who were killed in his army, when he defeated the Danes in a bloody battle on a field in this neighbourhood, which is still called *King's Field*. It is one hundred and forty-five miles from London, and lies on the borders of Somersetshire and Dorsetshire, in the road to Exeter. It is an healthy, clean, considerable town; it carries on a small trade in kerseys, druggets, and other articles of the woollen manufacture; it is famous also for its excellent carpets, considerable manufactories of which are carried on this town; and is well supplied with fish from Lyme, Axmouth, and several other neighbouring coast towns.

OKEHAMPTON, vulgarly called OCKINGTON, had its name from its situation upon the river Oke. It is situated almost a mile from its parish church, which stands near the ruins of a castle built by Baldwin de Briory, on the summit of a hill. It is one hundred and ninety-three miles from London, and is an ancient borough governed by a mayor, eight capital burgeses, and as many assistants, out of whom the burgeses are annually chosen, a recorder, a justice, and a town-clerk. The mayor has a great share in the choice of every succeeding mayor, because he nominates two of the burgeses, one of whom is chosen by other burgeses and their assistants. Here is a town-hall and a chapel, but both are mean buildings; though in the reign of James the First, one Trelawney added a little neat tower to the chapel, which has given it the form of a church. The chief manufacture carried on here is serges; but the principal support of the place is said to be the road between Launceston, in Cornwall, and Crediton, in this county, for the best houses in the place are inns.

HARTLAND stands upon a promontory that runs out far into the sea. It is the extreme part of the county to the north-west, and is called Hartland Point. It is two hundred and eighteen miles from London, and is a great resort not only of people from Cornwall, but of the fishing boats of Barnstaple, Bideford, and other towns upon the coast: these vessels lie here under the rocks, which shelter them from the south-east and south-west winds, when these winds blow too hard



hard for them to venture to sea. Hartland carries on a considerable herring fishery, and the cod taken here is the best in the world, though it is not near so plentiful here as on the banks of Newfoundland. A pier has been erected here to prevent the breaking in of the sea with violence. Here is a good quay, the descent to which is very steep, being beaten out of the cliffs.

CREDITON, vulgarly called KIRTON, had its name from the river Creden, on which it stands. In the time of the Saxons it was the see of a bishop, which was afterwards translated to Exeter; but the cathedral is still standing, and is a magnificent structure, two hundred feet in length. In this church there is a monument of one of its bishops; the grave-stone of which, not a century ago, had a brass fillet round it, inscribed as follows:

“ *Quisquis es, qui transferis, sta, perlege plora;*  
 “ *Sum quod eris, fueram quod es; pro me, precor, ora.*”

It is one hundred and seventy-six miles from London, and in the reign of Edward the First it sent members to a parliament at Carlisle. Its chief manufacture is serge, and it has a charity-school. On August 14, 1743, a fire broke out here, which in less than ten hours consumed four hundred and sixty dwelling-houses, besides the market-house, wool-chambers, and other public buildings; eighteen persons perished in the flames, more than two thousand were reduced to the most deplorable distress; and the damages in houses and goods not insured, were computed at sixty thousand pounds.

TOTNES stands upon the river Dart, and is one hundred and ninety-five miles from London. It is a borough by prescription, and the most ancient in the county; King John made it a corporation, consisting of fourteen burgomasters, of which one is a mayor, who, with his predecessor, and the recorder, are justices of the peace; there are twenty common-council-men, and a few freemen elected by the mayor and masters. The town consists chiefly of one broad street, three quarters of a mile long, and stands on the side of a rocky hill, declining to the river. It was formerly walled in, and had four gates, but only the south gate, and some small parts of the rest, are now remaining. Here is a spacious church,  
 with

with a fine tower and four pinnacles, each ninety feet high, a town-hall, and a school-house. The river, over which there is a fine stone bridge, supplies the inhabitants with trout and other fish in great plenty. Its chief trade is the woollen manufacture. It had formerly a castle, the outer walls of which are still entire, except the battlements. The famous Roman fosseway, which began here, though one thousand four hundred years old, is still visible. They catch salmon peel here with a spaniel trained up for that purpose, which drives them into a shove net. A man will sometimes take up twenty salmon at a time, from fourteen to twenty-six inches long, which they sell remarkably cheap.—Totnes is remarkable for the peculiarity of its loyal address to King George the First, upon the union of Charles the Sixth, emperor of Germany, with the King of Spain, by the treaty of Vienna; the good people of this corporation assured his Majesty, that they were ready to grant him not only a land-tax of four shillings in the pound, but, if his service required it, to give him the sixteen shillings that remained.

**MOULTON.** There are two places of this name, situated upon a small river called the *Moul*, which falls into the Taw, and from whence they derive their name. They are distinguished by the names of *North* and *South Moulton*. The latter is a very neat and populous market-town, and is remarkable for its large fairs for cattle, &c. It is one hundred and eighty-two miles from London, and in the reign of King Edward the First sent members to parliament. It is governed by a mayor, eighteen capital burgeses, a recorder, a town-clerk, and two serjeants at mace. It has a noble spacious church, a charity-school, and a free-school, which was built and endowed in 1684, by a native of this town, who was a merchant of London. The chief manufactures here are serges, shalloons, and felts.

**TORRINGTON**, called *GREAT Torrington*, to distinguish it from another Torrington that has not a market, is situated on the declivity of a hill, on the banks of the river Torridge, from which it had its name, and was originally called *Torridge Town*. It is one hundred and ninety-six miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, eight aldermen, and sixteen burgeses. The petty sessions and other meetings are generally



held here by the gentlemen of the county. It has two churches, one of which has a library belonging to it. Here are alms-houses, with right of commonage for the poor, and a charity-school. This town has a stone bridge over the river Torridge; it is rich and populous, and carries on a great trade to Ireland, and other places to the west.

BEREALSTON, is situated on a small river called the *Tave*, and is two hundred and twelve miles from London. It is an ancient borough by prescription, and is governed by a portreeve. All persons who pay three-pence or more a year to the lord of the manor, as an acknowledgement for land held in the borough, are called burgage holders, and are the only voters for representatives of this borough in parliament; and the portreeve, who is chosen yearly at the court of the lord of the manor, returns them. This place is in the parish of Bere Ferris, from the church of which it lies near two miles.

OTTERY. There are three towns of this name, which they derive from their situation on a small river called the *Otter*. They are distinguished by the respective names of *Ottery St. Mary*, *Ottery-Mobuns*, and *Up-Ottery*. *Ottery St. Mary* is the market-town, and is situated on the left hand of the road from Honiton to Exeter; and had its name from having formerly belonged to St. Mary's church, in Roan, in France. It is a large town, and is distant from London one hundred and sixty miles.

TAVISTOCK, is so called from its situation on the banks of the *Tave*. It is two hundred and five miles from London, and is a borough by prescription, governed by a portreeve, who is chosen yearly by twenty-four freeholders, at the court of the lord of the manor. It is a stannary town, large and well built, with a handsome parish church covered with slate. It has two alms-house; and is supplied by the *Tave* with plenty of fish. An abbey was built here in 961, of which there are still some remains to be seen. Here is a chalybeate mineral water.

SIDMOUTH is thus called from its situation at the mouth of a small river called the *Side*, which flows into the English Channel. It is one hundred and sixty-two miles from London,

don, and was formerly a considerable port, but the harbour is now so choaked up with sand, that no ships of burthen can get in, yet it remains one of the chief fisher towns in the county, and supplies the eastern parts of it with much provision. It is now much frequented as a bathing place.

TOPSHAM is one hundred and seventy-three miles from London, and five from Exeter, of which it is the port. It is almost encompassed with the river Ex, and a rivulet called the *Clift*. Both the horse road and foot way from Exeter to this town being very pleasant, many people resort thither for pleasure as well as business.

BAMPTON, or BAUNTON, as it is commonly called, both being corruptions of *Bathampton*, stands in a bottom, encompassed with hills, on a branch of the river Ex, and is one hundred and sixty-seven miles from London. It is governed by a portreeve, and formerly sent members to parliament.

COLUMBTON, or, as it is generally, though corruptly spelt, *Cullompton*, derives its name from a small river called the *Columb*, on which it is situated. It is one hundred and sixty-four miles from London. The church here has a curious and richly gilded rood loft, which is still preserved as an ornament, though the image worshipped in the days of popery is removed. This town is the best on the river *Columb*, and has a considerable woollen manufactory.

KINGSBRIDGE is situated on the river *Salcombe*, and is two hundred and seventeen miles from London. It is a pretty town, and pleasantly situated. It has a harbour for boats, and a bridge over the *Salcombe* to *Dodbrook*; it has also a free-school, founded and endowed by Mr. Crispin, of Exeter.

DODBROOK is situated on the river *Salcombe*, and is two hundred and eighteen miles from London. Here is a charity-school. This place is remarkable for paying the parson tythe of a liquor called *white ale*.

CHUDLEIGH is near a small river called the *Teign*, and is distant from London one hundred and eighty-one miles.



MODBURY is two hundred and eight miles from London. In the reign of Edward the First it sent members to parliament, and is now only remarkable for its ale.

NEWTON-BUSHEL is a large town situated on the river Teign, at the distance of one hundred and eighty-seven miles from London.

BOWE is thought to have taken its name from its crooked figure. It is one hundred and eighty-nine miles from London, and the court of the duchy of Lancaster is commonly kept here.

CHULMLEIGH is situated upon the river Taw, about half way between Exeter and Barnstaple, and is distant from London one hundred and ninety miles.

BRENT is situated one hundred and ninety-nine miles from London.

CULLITON is situated seventeen miles south-east of Exeter, and one hundred and fifty-four west of London.

HATHERLEY is situated on a branch of the river Torridge, next to its conflux with the Oke, at the distance of two hundred miles from London.

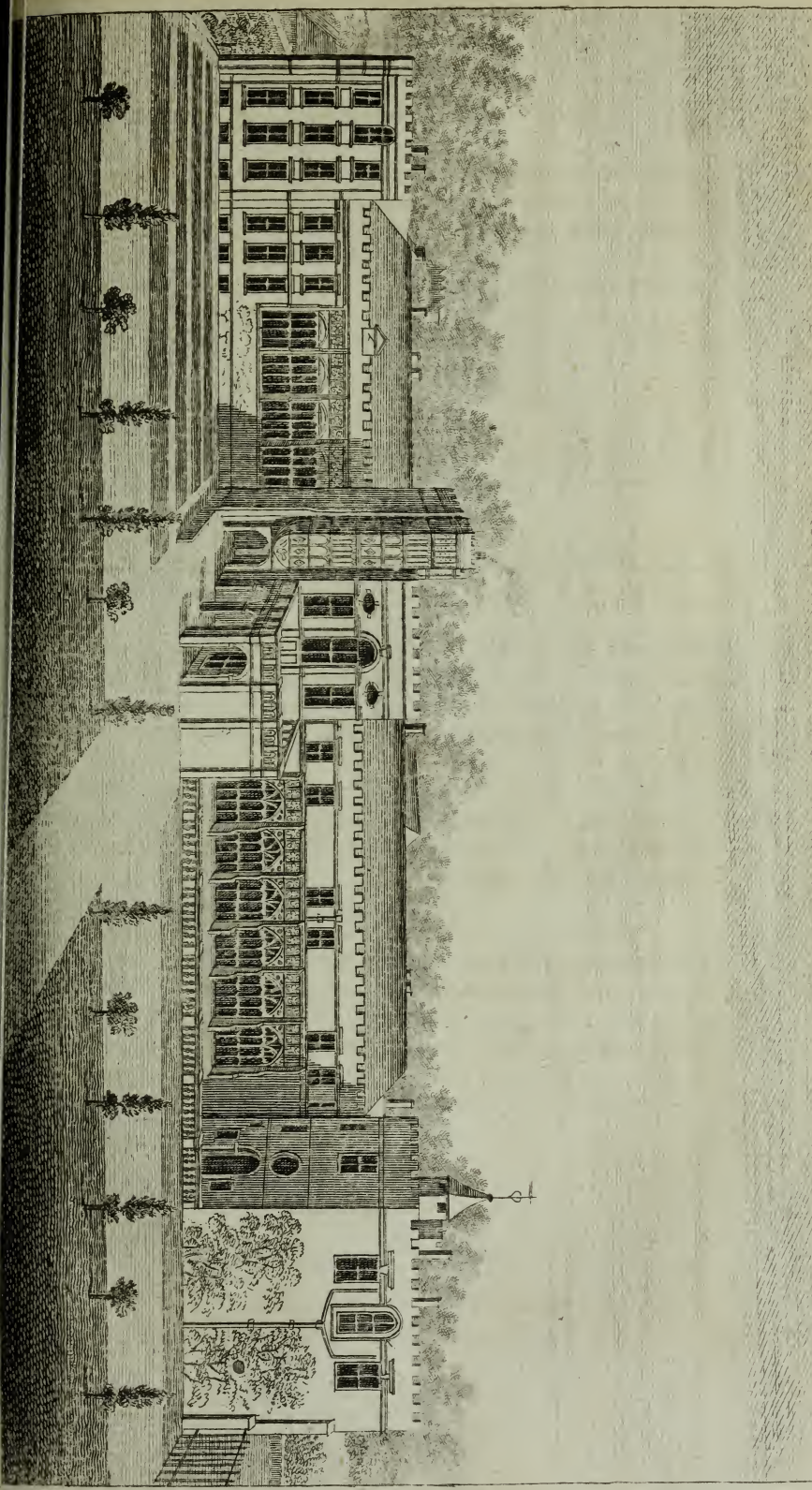
HOULSWORTHY is situated on the river Tamar, and on the borders of Cornwall, at the distance of two hundred and fifteen miles from London.

MORETON, or MORETON-HAMPSTED, is situated on the skirts of Dartmoor Forest, and is one hundred and eighty-two miles from London.

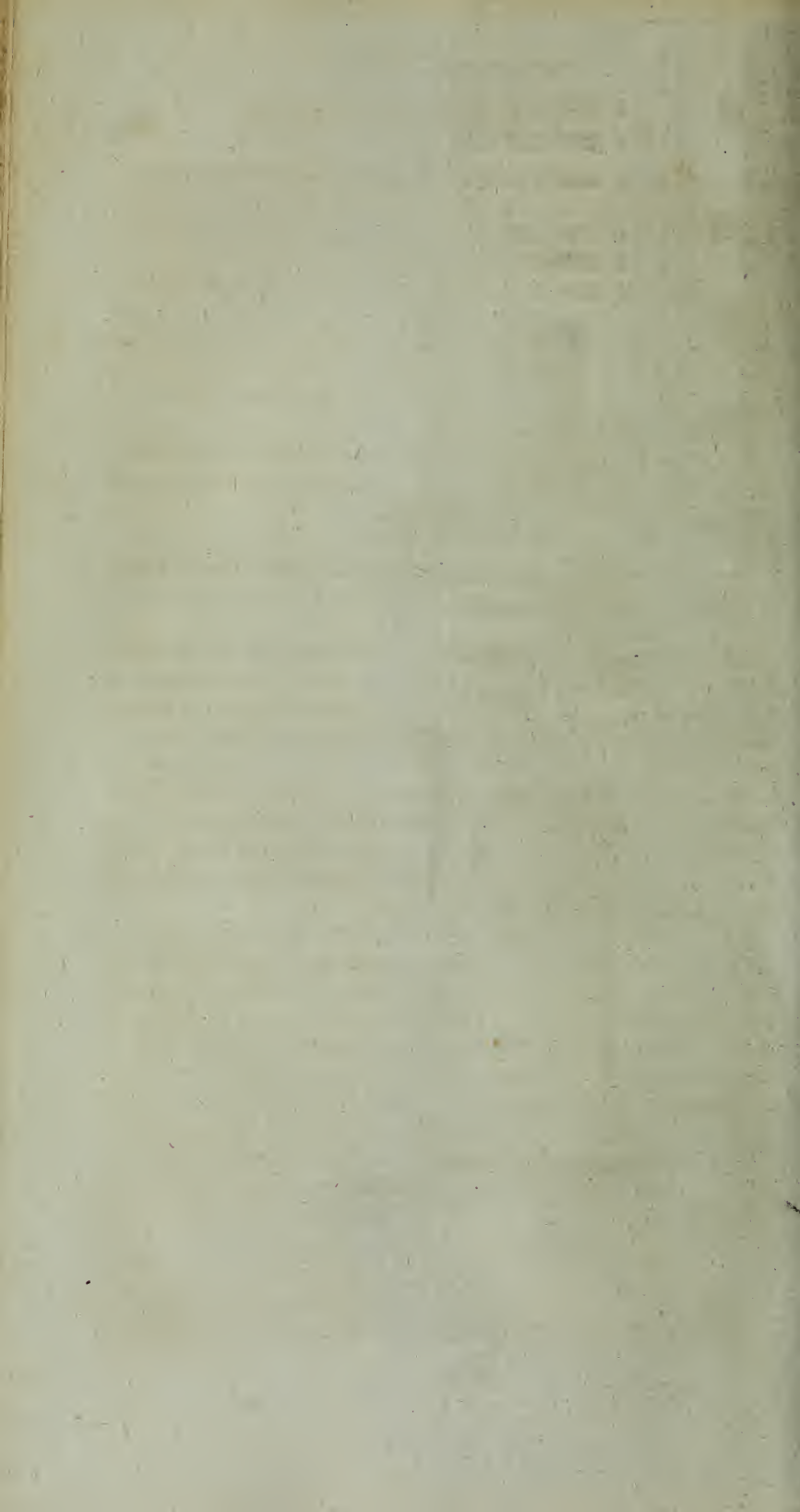
SHEPWASH is two hundred and nine miles from London.

#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

*Ford-Abbey*, the seat of the late Francis Gwyn, Esq; was originally the seat of Adeliza, daughter of Baldwin, of the







the family of Brionis, and given by her to some Cistercian monks, and by this means the abbey was founded. In time it came to the Prideaux baronets, in whose family it continued till the male issue failed, when by the marriage of a daughter to Mr. Gwyn, it became the seat of that gentleman.

Three miles beyond Axminster, on the left, is *Shute*, the seat of Sir J. W. Pole, Baronet; and a little more to the left is *Escott*, the seat of Sir George Yonge, Baronet.

*Tawstock*, six miles from Bideford, is the seat of Sir Bouchier Wrey, Baronet. This has been said to be the largest and best finished house in the county.

*Copleston*, ten miles from Exeter, is the seat of Sir Charles Warwick Bampfylde, Baronet.

About two miles south-east of Topsham is *Powderham Castle*, an ancient seat belonging to Lord Courtenay. It stands in the middle of a fine park, surrounded with walls, shaded with lofty elms, and washed by the river Ex.

*Halldown*, four miles from Exeter, is the seat of the Lady Dowager Chudleigh. It is one of the best modern houses in the county, and was built by the late Sir Gregory Chudleigh, Baronet, after the model of Buckingham-House (now the Queen's Palace) in St. James's Park.

The principal seats in this county lie on or about *Halldown*, which is a dry heath, about seven miles in length, and three in breadth; which, notwithstanding it is a flinty, barren soil, is a most delightful situation, together with a charming prospect both by sea and land; so that, unless it be about London, there are not so many gentlemen's seats within the compass of ground, as lie round the skirts of this common, viz. Lord Clifford's, at *Ugbrook*; the late Bishop of Exeter's, at *Dawlish*; the late Stephen Northleigh's, Esq. at *Peamore*; Mr. Helyar's, at *Canon's-Tring*; Mr. Savery's, at *Trehall*; Mr. Balle's, at *Mourhead*; Mr. Woolcomb's, at *Place*; Mr. Yarde's, at *Whiteway*; Mr. Langdon's, at *Park-Place*; Mr. Geare's, at *Holloway*; Mr. Shepherd's, at *Bell-Marsh*; Mr. Davenport's, at *Burrough*; Lord Walpole's, at *Hyn-ton*,  
a considerable



a considerable way farther to the west, near Hatherley ; and Mr. Champney's, near *Barnstaple* ; besides Lord Courtenay's and Lady Chudleigh's, already mentioned.

In the forest of Dartmoor, between Tavistock and Chagford, is a high hill called *Crocken-Torr*, where the tanners of this county are obliged by their charter to assemble their parliaments, or the jurats, who are commonly gentlemen within the jurisdiction, chosen from the four stannary courts of coinage in this county, of which the lord-warden is judge. The jurats being met, to the number sometimes of two or three hundred, in this desolate place, are quite exposed to the weather, and have no other place to sit upon but a moor-stone bench, and no refreshments but what they bring with them ; for this reason the steward immediately adjourns the court to Tavistock, or some other stannary town.

*Kent's Hole* is situated about a mile and half from Torbay, and is thus described by a gentleman who visited it lately :—  
 “ It has two openings about half way up a steep cliff covered  
 “ with brushwood, and enamelled with a profusion of flow-  
 “ ers, particularly the cowslip, which is not considered as a  
 “ native of Devon. The opening to the left is an arch  
 “ about two feet high, which lets you into the great cavern  
 “ at once ; but the more accessible entrance is by a cleft in  
 “ the rock on the right hand, which is about five feet high,  
 “ three feet wide, and forty-three in length, and leads you  
 “ also into the great cave, which is ninety-three feet in  
 “ depth, and about one hundred in width ; the extreme  
 “ height might be about thirty feet, but the height is very  
 “ unequal, as the floor rises in the middle to within a few feet  
 “ of the roof. Two more openings front you here : that  
 “ on the left leads you on a level into a cave fifty-two feet  
 “ long and twenty-two broad, and then into a second fifty-  
 “ four feet long and about fifteen wide. Here a pool of  
 “ water closes the cave, and the arch bends over it. These  
 “ caves are also about thirty feet high. And here once for  
 “ all let it be understood, that from fifteen to twenty feet is  
 “ the height of all the caves hereafter mentioned, and the  
 “ extreme breadth about fifteen.

“ Returning to the great cave I entered the opening on the  
 “ right, descending by a very rocky slippery way into a pas-  
 “ sage

“ sage one hundred and thirty-six feet long, and from six to  
“ twelve feet high. I then ascended several steps of rock  
“ covered with congelations, and pursued the passage (which  
“ now in several places obliged me to stoop) for forty-two  
“ feet more, when I entered a fourth cave thirty-one feet  
“ long; thence, by a low narrow passage forty-six feet long,  
“ I was conveyed into a fifth cave twenty-five feet long;  
“ from whence, on the right hand, branches another cavern  
“ twenty-two feet long. I then went through another pas-  
“ sage for fifty-six feet, when meeting another ledge of rocks,  
“ I clambered over them, and ascended into a vault so low  
“ as to oblige me to crawl on my hands and knees for sixty  
“ feet, when I entered a seventh cavern fifty feet long, with  
“ another on the right hand about thirty; at the end of  
“ the largest of these caverns there is a pool of water, which,  
“ on account of its depth, I could not venture to measure,  
“ but I should guess it to be about twenty feet in length;  
“ and here the cave finally closes.

“ By this measurement, leaving out the odd inches, which,  
“ on account of the irregularity of the floor, may be thrown  
“ into the scale, I find the depth of this cavern to be six  
“ hundred and two feet; yet I am aware, that any person  
“ hereafter who shall give himself the trouble to measure it  
“ with the same regard to truth and accuracy as I did, may  
“ find the dimensions very different, on account of the dark-  
“ ness of the cave, the projecting rocks, and inequalities of  
“ height and breadth.

“ This cavern, although inferior to the Derbyshire caves  
“ in extent and loftiness, and to Wokey in the latter re-  
“ spect, is yet of greater extent than Wokey, and hath four  
“ more caves. The petrefactions are very fine, and it  
“ abounds with those cones formed of the drop-stone, of  
“ which Mr. Pope robbed Wokey to decorate his grotto at  
“ Twickenham. One of these cones near the centre of the  
“ great cave, with the stalactitæ which formed it pendant  
“ from the roof, would not disgrace the grotto of Antiparos.  
“ Another very large cone will soon block up the second  
“ passage, and close the cave, unless another whimsical  
“ grotto-maker should settle near Torbay. Here are several  
“ pools of very cold pellucid water, but no running stream  
“ as at Pool's Hole, in Derbyshire, and Donald Mill Hole,  
“ in Lancashire, both which I have seen. The murmur of  
“ these



“ these streams, reverberated by the hollows of the cavern,  
 “ produce a most awful effect. I saw several bats in a tor-  
 “ pid state, pendant from the roof and sides. The solitary  
 “ situation of this cave adds greatly to its solemnity.”

At Brixham, a village about three miles west of Dartmouth, is a spring, called *Lay Well*, which ebbs and flows from one to eleven times an hour. The rise and fall of it at a medium, is about an inch and a quarter, and the area of the basin into which it is received, is about twenty feet. It sometimes bubbles like a boiling pot : the water, which is as clear as crystal, is very cold in the summer, yet never freezes in winter. The neighbouring inhabitants have a notion that in some fevers it is medicinal.

In the church of *Lamerton*, or *Lamberton*, a village two miles from Tavistock, are the effigies of Nicholas and Andrew Tremaine, twins, of this parish, who in features, stature, voice, and every other particular, so exactly resembled each other, that those who knew them best could not always distinguish them. But this similitude of character, however uncommon, was less wonderful than the sympathy that subsisted between them ; for even at a distance one from another, it is said that they performed the same functions, had the same appetites and desires, and suffered the same pains and anxieties, at the same time. Of these remarkable persons nothing farther is related, than that in 1663 they were killed together at Newhaven, in France ; but upon what occasion, or in what manner, is not known.

*Lidford* is eighteen miles from Plymouth, and is situated on the river Lid, which is remarkable near this place for being confined with rocks, by means of which it has worked itself so deep a channel in the ground, that the water can hardly be seen from the bridge, or the murmurs of it heard by those who pass over it. The bridge is level with the road, but the surface of the water near seventy feet perpendicular below it.

About a mile from this place there is another natural phenomenon, still more remarkable, namely, a cataract, or fall of water, from a height of near one hundred feet. The water comes from a mill at some distance, and after a declining course, arrives at the edge of the precipice or steep rock,  
 from

from whence it projects in a very beautiful manner, and strikes upon a part of the cliff standing out some small distance beyond the brink of the precipice, by which it is somewhat divided, and falls from thence in a wider cataract to the bottom, where it has formed a deep basin in the ground.

*Torbay*, twelve miles from Dartmouth, is remarkable for the landing of King William the Third, then Prince of Orange, on November 5, 1688. Here is a good road for ships, which is twelve miles in circumference.

*Appledore*, near Barnstaple, is well situated and inhabited, having a good harbour for ships. Here it was that Hubba the Dane, having laid waste South Wales with fire and sword, landed in the reign of King Alfred, with thirty-three sail of ships, and laid siege to the castle of Kenwith, now called *Hennaborough*. He was bravely repulsed by the Devonians, defeated, and slain. He was buried at Huddleston.

*Kenwith Castle* is mentioned by Camden in the following manner:—"From hence (viz. Barnstaple) the Taw passing by Raleigh, (which formerly belonged to its noble Lords of the same name, but now to the famous family surnamed *De Chichester*\*,) and after that enlarged by the Torridge, runs into the Severn sea, but finds not Kenwith Castle, mentioned by Afferius to have been situated on the north coast."

At *Chegford*, which was formerly a considerable place, though it is now only an insignificant village, is a fine ancient Gothic church.

About three miles from Ashburton, is the ancient village of *Buckfastleigh*, where was formerly a monastery of the Cistercian order, great part of the walls of which are yet standing, from whence it appears to have been a considerable edifice.

*Bishop's Tawton*, a village situated upon the river Taw, south of Barnstaple, was the first bishop's see in the county.

VOL. I.

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Eadulphus,

\* The ancestors of Sir John Chichester, Baronet, and of the Earl of Donnegal, who is a younger branch of the ancient family of Chichester.



Eadulphus, or Werstan, the first bishop, had this see about the year 905; and Putta, the second bishop, had his see here for some time; but it was from that place removed to Crediton, and from thence the see was translated to Exeter.

*The Valley of Stones*, near Linton, is a grotesque and most romantic spot. It is a beautiful valley about half a mile in length, situated between two hills, covered with an immense quantity of stones and terminated by rocks which have the appearance of ruined castles, rising at a great height and presenting a wild and picturesque prospect. At an opening between the rocks, towards the close of the valley, there is a delightful view of the Bristol Channel and the Welch coast. The scenery of the whole country in the neighbourhood of this curious valley is wonderfully striking.—The country people call this valley *The Deanes*, or *Danes*, and scarcely know it by any other name. Near it are some remains of Danish encampments: one of them called *Oldborough*, in the neighbouring parish of Countisbury, at the very northern extremity of this county, on a very lofty hill, is uncommonly perfect. The Danes landed on this coast, and committed many depredations on it, particularly at Porlock and Watchet, in the ninth and tenth centuries. Our English historians, relate, that the poor inhabitants suffered all the miseries which fire and sword could inflict.

At *Berry Pomery*, near Totnes, is an ancient castle, originally built by the descendants of Radulphde Pomery, who held this and about fifty other lordships, in the time of William the First.



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## D O R S E T S H I R E.

**T**HIS county is bounded by Devonshire and part of Somersetshire on the west, by Wiltshire and another part of Somersetshire on the north, by Hampshire on the east, and by the English Channel on the south. It is about fifty miles in length from east to west, thirty in breadth, and one hundred and fifty miles in circumference.

This county has often been stiled *The Garden of England*; its air is in general healthy; on the hills it is somewhat sharp, but mild and pleasant in the vallies and near the coast. The soil is rich and fertile. The northern part, which was formerly overspread with forests, now affords good pasture for black cattle; and the southern part, which chiefly consists of fine downs, feed an incredible number of sheep, and its vallies abound with corn.

The principal rivers in this county are the Stour and the Frome. The Stour rises in Somersetshire, and entering Dorsetshire, runs due south to Sturminster-Down, where, making an angle, it runs a course nearly east-south-east, and leaving Dorsetshire above five miles south-east of Wimborne-Minster, it falls into the English Channel at Christ-Church, in Hampshire.—The Frome rises in the west part of Dorsetshire, near Evershot, and running almost due east, falls into the bay of the English Channel, called *Pool Harbour*, near Wareham.—Other less considerable rivers of this county are the Piddle, the Lyddon, the Dulish, and the Allen.—The rivers of this county afford plenty of fish; but the tench and eels of the Stour are particularly famous.—The port towns supply the inhabitants with all sorts of sea fish; and the rocks upon the coast abound with samphire and eringo. Here are swans, geese, and ducks, without number, and great plenty of woodcocks, pheasants, partridges, pigeons, field-fares, and other game.



This county also abounds with corn, cattle, wool, hemp, and timber.

Dorsetshire is divided into twenty-nine hundreds, and contains twenty-two market-towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Bristol, and includes two hundred and forty-eight parishes. This county is remarkable for its linen and woollen manufactures, and its excellent beer.

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### M A R K E T - T O W N S.

DORCHESTER is distant from London one hundred and twenty-one miles, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, two bailiffs, six aldermen, and six capital burgesſes, beſides a governor, who is annually choſen by twenty-four common-councilmen, and whoſe office is chiefly to look after the trade of the town. A court of common-council, aſſiſted by five of the capital burgesſes, determines all matters belonging to the privileges of the freemen. In this place, being the county town, the aſſizes for the county are held, and here the knights of the ſhire are elected. It is ſituated upon a ſmall aſcent, and commands a fine view of the river Frome, which lies north of the town. It conſiſts chiefly of three ſtreets, which are well paved and clean; and the houſes are in general well built, and the town ſpacious and pleaſant. Dorcheſter is alſo noted for the pleaſant walks around it, which are indeed extremely delightful. Here are three churches, a town-hall, a ſhire-hall, and the county gaol, with its chapel. St. Peter's church and the town-hall ſtand in one ſtreet; Trinity church and the ſhire-hall in another; and All Saints church, below which is the county gaol, with its chapel, in the third. St. Peter's church is a handſome ſtructure. There is a traditional rhyme, which imports the founder of this church to have been one Geoffery Van:

“ Geoffery Van,  
 “ With his wife Anne,  
 “ And his maid Nan,  
 “ Built this church.”

But there was long ſince dug up in a garden here a large ſeal, with indisputable marks of antiquity, and this inſcription: “ *Sigillum Galfridi de Ann;*” it is therefore ſuppoſed, with  
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some reason, that the founder's name was Ann. Here is a good free-school house and a handsome alms-house near it, besides two other alms-houses, the donations of private gentlemen. This town was once famous for a manufactory of broad cloth and serge; the manufactory of broad cloth is entirely lost, and the serge trade is come to nothing. The principal business of the place at present is breeding sheep, of which it is said no less than six hundred thousand are fed within six miles of this town. The ewes generally bring two lambs, which is imputed to the wild thyme and other aromatic herbage, which grows upon the downs here in great plenty. The sheep and lambs are bought up by the farmers of Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire, Kent, and Surrey, to supply the eastern part of England. This town also sends great quantities of malt every year to Bristol, and it is noted for excellent cakes as well as for excellent beer.

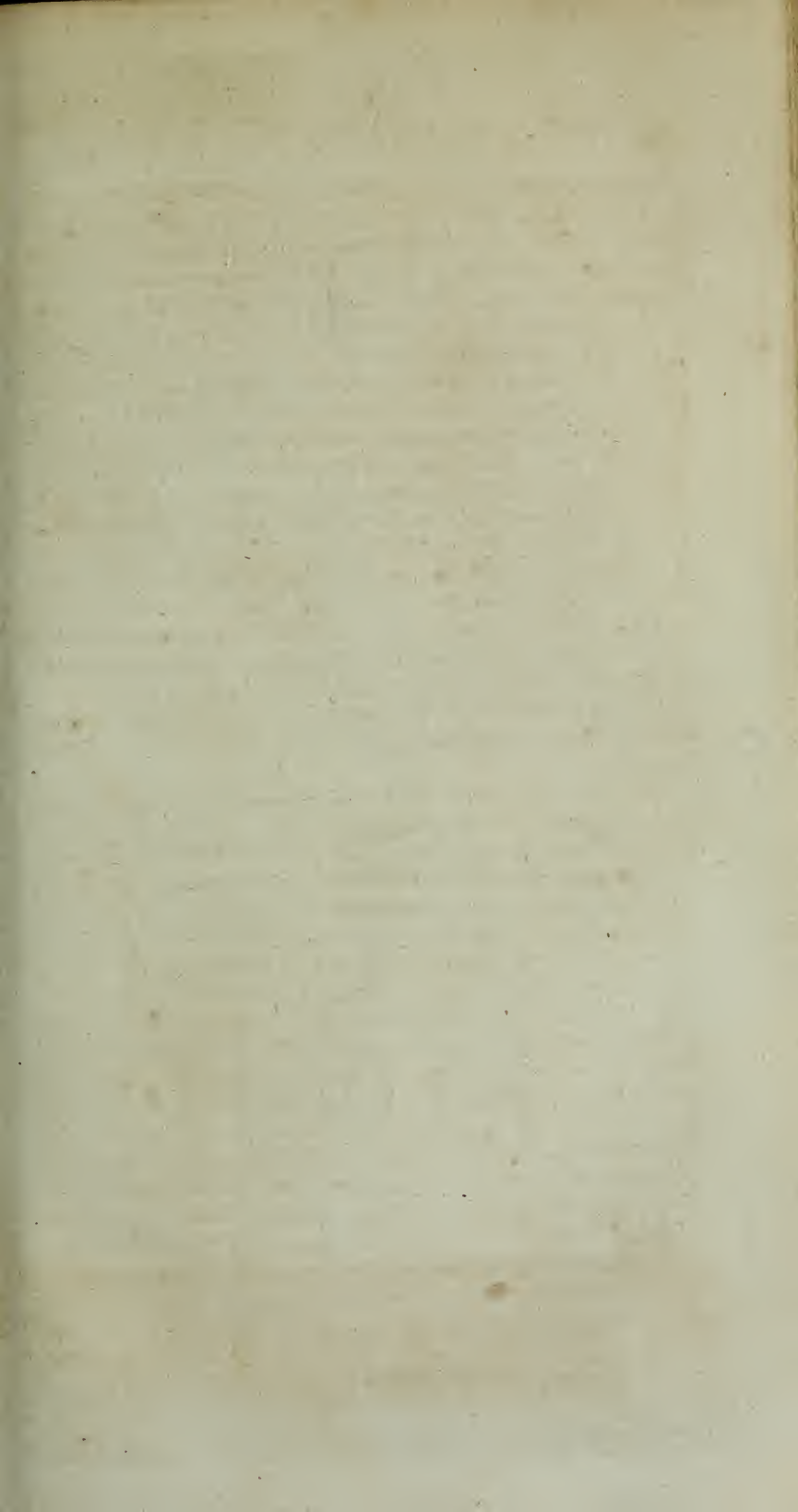
Dorchester is by Antoninus called *Durnovaria*, i. e. a *passage over a river*; and by Ptolemy *Durnium*. In the time of the Romans it was one of the winter stations of the legions quartered in those parts; and at about a mile distance from this town they had a summer station now called *Maiden Castle*. It was then a camp, with five trenches, and included near ten acres of ground. In the neighbourhood of this town the Romans had also an amphitheatre one hundred and forty feet wide and two hundred and twenty long, now called *Maumbury*, having a terrace on the top, which is still used as a public walk, and commands a prospect of the town and country round it. The famous Roman causeway called *Ickening-street*, leading from this town to Maiden Castle, and the foundations of an old Roman wall, which surrounded the town, and a ditch that surrounded the wall, are still visible. A great variety of Roman coins have been dug up here at different times; some of silver and others of copper, called by the common people *King Dorn's Pence*; for they have a notion that one King Dorn was the founder of Dorchester. The Romans had also a castle here which was demolished by the Danes; but after the Norman invasion there was another castle erected on the same spot, of which the barons were governors for a long time. This town was very considerable before it was ruined by the Danes; and in the time of the Saxons, there were two mints in it for the coinage of money.

SHAFTESBURY,

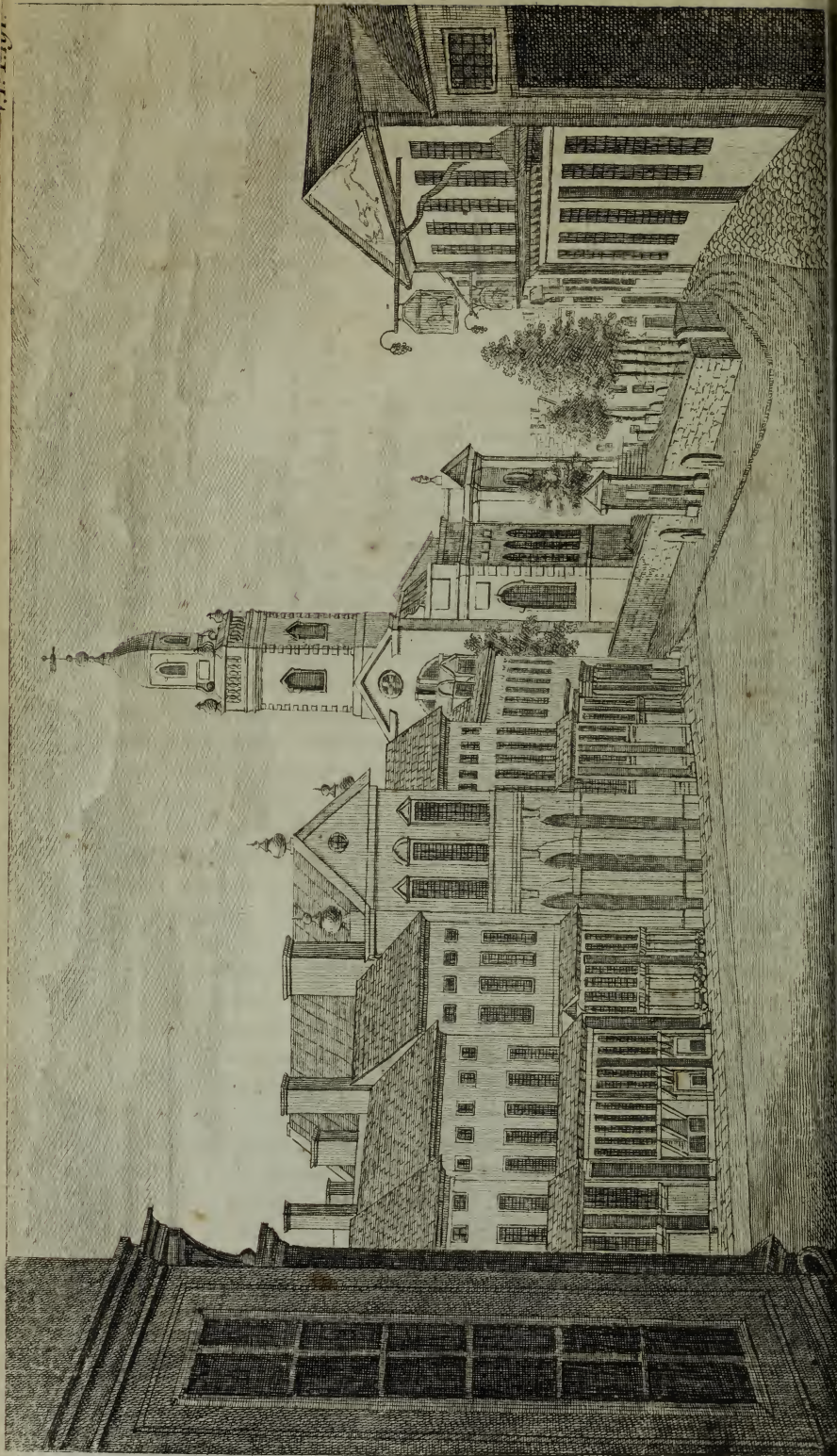


SHAFTESBURY, or SHASTON, is a very ancient town, and stands on a hill unusually high and steep in the post road from London to Exeter, and commands a prospect into Wiltshire and Somersetshire. Its distance from London is one hundred and two miles. It is governed by a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, bailiffs, and common-councilmen. It contains about five hundred houses, most of which are built of free-stone. On the top of a hill called *Park Hill*, near this town, a fine grove was planted some years since by a gentleman in the neighbourhood for the inhabitants to walk in. The air is pure and healthy, but the elevated situation of the town makes it rather cold. Here were anciently twelve churches, but now there are only four. A most magnificent monastery was built here by King Alfred, of the Benedictine order, but no remains of it are now to be seen. Here is a town-hall, built in 1578, where the Midsummer quarter-sessions are held; and also several alms-houses and a charity-school. Scarcely any kind of manufacture is carried on here, but a well frequented market is held on Saturdays; and it has several fairs. It gives the title of Earl to Anthony Ashley Cooper, Baron Ashley, of Wimborne St. Giles, in this county.

Water is so scarce in this town, that it used to be brought from Motcomb, a village at some distance, by horses; but in 1718, William Benson, Esq; one of its representatives, was at the expence of constructing engines, which raised the water of a well, about two miles off, to the height of above three hundred feet, and conveyed it into a large cistern in the middle of the town. These engines, however, have for some reasons been disused, and the inhabitants have dug pits at the doors of their houses for preserving the rain water, which not being sufficient for a constant supply, the poor get their living by bringing water in pails, or upon horses, to the town, from Motcomb; and as an acknowledgement to the lord of the manor of Motcomb, the mayor and burgeses of Shaftesbury go in procession every year, on the Monday before Holy Thursday, with a kind of garland, something like the May garlands carried about by those who sell milk in London, consisting of plate, borrowed of the neighbouring gentry, and adorned with peacocks feathers. This garland, which is here called a *prize besom*, or *byzant*, is generally so richly adorned that it has sometimes been worth not less than  
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one thousand five hundred pounds. It is carried to a green below the hill whence the water is taken, and presented, together with a raw calf's head and a pair of gloves, to the lord of the manor, who receives the present by his steward, and at the same time distributes twelve penny loaves and three dozen of beer among the people. After the ceremony is over, the prize besom is restored to the mayor, and carried back to the town by one of the officers, with great solemnity.

BLANDFORD lies upon the Stour, at the distance of one hundred and six miles from London. It is an ancient borough, governed by two bailiffs, chosen yearly out of the aldermen or capital burghesses. It has been twice burnt down by accident; first in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, but was soon rebuilt; and the second time on June 4, 1731, when the fire raged so violently, that few of the people saved any of their goods; and the small pox being much here at the same time, many of the sick were carried from the flames into the fields, where they died. The town has however been since rebuilt in a very beautiful manner, inasmuch that it is equalled by few country towns. Its chief manufacture formerly was band strings, and afterwards straw hats and bone lace, but now malt and cloth. At present, however, its chief support is the resort of travellers. The Christmas quarter-sessions are held here. The town is much frequented by the gentry who have seats upon pleasant downs, extending from this place to Dorchester, and called *Burford Downs*. Here is a bridge over the Stour.

SHERBORNE is one hundred and seventeen miles from London. It is a place of great antiquity, for it was of considerable note in the time of the Saxons. It derives its name from the Saxon words *scine*, i. e. clear, or pure, and *bunn*, a spring or fountain. An episcopal see was fixed here in the year 704, by Ina, King of the West Saxons; in which there sat twenty-five bishops successively, till the eleventh century, when, after being united with the bishopric of Sunning, the see was removed from hence, first to Wilton, and afterwards to Old Sarum and Salisbury; whereupon this county was made part of that diocese, till King Henry the Eighth erected a new see at Bristol, to which diocese it has belonged ever since. Soon after the translation of the see, the cathedral



dral was converted into an abbey; and being a magnificent edifice, was so much prized by the inhabitants of the town, that at the dissolution of the monasteries, they bought it for their parish church; and it is said that they pulled down three churches and four chapels about the town to save this. Sherborne church is, indeed, a venerable regular Gothic structure, and adorned with excellent workmanship both within and without, and is scarcely surpassed by any parish church in the kingdom. It is a very regular building, in the form of an unequal cross, two hundred and seven feet long, and one hundred and two wide. The nave is a noble Gothic room, one hundred and eighty-two feet by thirty-two, and one hundred and nine feet high; and there is a dignity and solemnity in the great isle which is very striking. The windows are large and handsome, and the roof all of stone, finely enriched with mouldings and other ornaments. At the west end stands a large organ, and at the east a decent altar piece. The tower contains six large bells, which require eighteen or twenty men to ring them in peal. The tenor, or the sixth, is said to weigh sixty thousand pounds. It was brought from Tournay, and given by Cardinal Wolsey to this church, and on it is this inscription:

“ By Wolsey’s gift I measure time for all;  
 “ To mirth, to grief, to church, I serve to call.”

At the entrance of this church are interred Ethelbald and Ethelbert, two of our Saxon Kings; and among other monuments here, in one of the isles is a very superb one, erected to the memory of John Lord Digby, Baron Digby of Sherborne, and Earl of Bristol. The Earl is represented at full length in his parliamentary robes: on his left side stands his first lady, and on his right his second.

The following inscription, which is inscribed on a fair tablet of stone at the east end of the church, is worth preservation:

“ This monument was erected by Mr. Thomas Mansel of this town, in remembrance of a great hail storm,  
 “ May 16, 1709, between the hours of one and four in the  
 “ afternoon, which stopping the course of a small river west  
 “ of this church, caused of a sudden an extraordinary flood  
 “ in the abbey garden and green, running with so rapid a  
 “ stream, that it forced open the north door of the church,  
 “ displaced

“ displaced or removed about seven thousand two hundred  
 “ and twenty-two feet of the pavement, and it was two feet  
 “ and ten inches high as it passed out of the south door.”

Fabian asserts, that the town of Sherborne was burnt down by a detachment of the Danish army in 1103. It does not appear that this town ever sent representatives to parliament; but it sent William Turpin and two other deputies to a council held at Westminster in the eleventh year of the reign of King Edward the Third. In 1685, twelve persons were executed here for being concerned in Monmouth's rebellion. In 1688, the Prince of Orange, afterwards King William the Third, came to Sherborne Lodge from Exeter, and was joined in this town by the Prince of Denmark, the Dukes of Ormond and Grafton, Lord Churchill, and other persons of distinction, who deserted King James the Second at Salisbury. This town gives the title of Baron to the Digby family.

The situation of Sherborne is pleasant, partly on a declining hill, and partly in a vale, and by its southern exposure very fertile. It is two miles in circumference, and contains upwards of five hundred houses, and near three thousand inhabitants. In the market place is a conduit of excellent water, which is constantly running, and has not been known to fail in the driest summers.

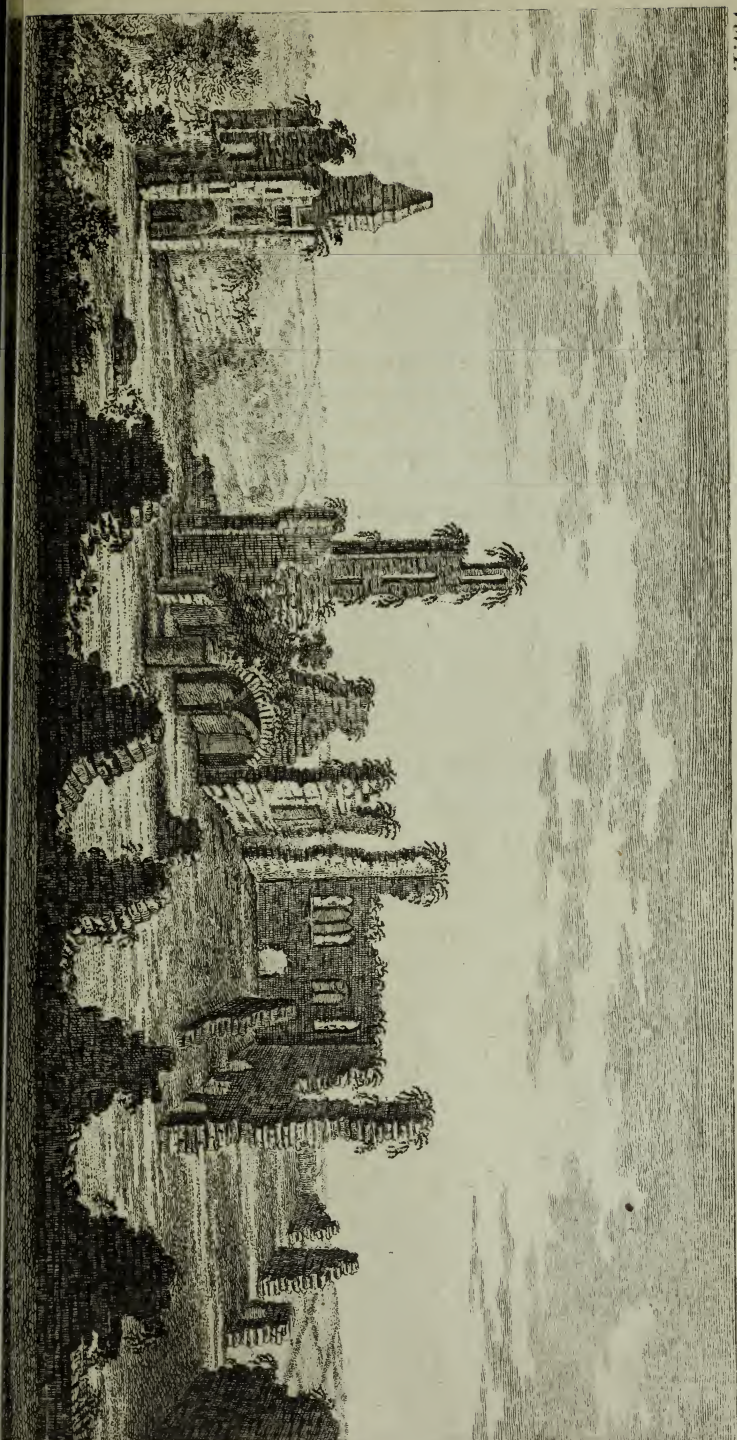
Here is an alms-house, which was founded about the fifteenth year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth, by Robert Nevil, bishop of Sarum, and others. It maintains in every thing sixteen men and eight women, who are chosen and governed by a master and nineteen brethren, elected out of the principal inhabitants of the town, by a majority of their own body. Prayers are daily read in a chapel in the alms-house, and a sermon is preached every Thursday. In a room wherein the master and brethren meet to transact the business of the alms-house, there are some cupboards, on the doors of which are some paintings of an ancient date, well executed.—Here is also a free-school, which was founded by King Edward the Sixth. Twenty of the inhabitants of Sherborne are governors of it. The Bishop of Bristol for the time being is the visitor, and the governors can make statutes by his advice. The master and governors of the alms-house are each in their turns warden and governor of the school, which has two masters, clergymen and graduates in one of the universities.



About the year 1753, the silk manufactory was introduced into this town, which has increased greatly since that time, insomuch that there are now two large silk mills carried on here, which constantly employ five or six hundred hands. Both of these silk mills are constructed on the plan of the silk mills at Derby.—The spring quarter sessions are held here.

There are the remains of a castle here, which held out during a long siege in the time of the civil war in the reign of King Charles the First. It was one of the first formally besieged by the parliament's forces, and held out for the King one of the last. There was a large moat round it on the north side; and there are still the remains of a subterraneous passage into the adjacent vale. This castle was built by Roger, the third bishop of Salisbury, in the reign of King Henry the First; but King Stephen, incensed at the bishop's pride, seized it, and his successors kept it till the year 1350, when it was recovered from the crown by Robert Wyvil, a prelate of more courage than learning. After it was taken by the forces of the parliament in the civil war, they sent orders to have it demolished.

POOL is supposed to derive its name from a bay called *Luxford Lake*, which surrounds it on every side but the north; and in a calm looks like a pool, or standing water. It is distant from London one hundred and six miles, and sent members to parliament in the reign of King Edward the Third. By a charter of Queen Elizabeth this town is severed from the county of Dorset, and made a county of itself, with the privilege of a sheriff keeping a court to determine all causes both civil and criminal, with divers other immunities, several of which it still enjoys, particularly the right of trying malefactors within its own jurisdiction, by a commission from the crown, which saves the expence of entertaining the judges on the circuit. The borough and county is governed by a mayor, recorder, aldermen, a sheriff, a coroner, a town-clerk, bailiffs, and common-councilmen. The mayor, who is admiral within the liberty, is chosen from among the burgessees, and after he has passed the chair, is always an alderman; and the first year after his mayoralty, he is senior bailiff and a justice of the peace. From among the aldermen are chosen annually three justices, the mayor and recorder being of the quorum,







quorum, and the election of the freemen or burgesſes muſt be made by the mayor, four aldermen, and twenty-four burgesſes. This town contains about four hundred houſes. The church, which is about two hundred years old, is a large ſtructure, but the tower is low, and the wings larger than the body, and not equal to one another. Here is a beautiful town-hall, built of ſtone, a charity-ſchool, a cuſtom-houſe, and quay; and there is a large warehouſe, called the *Town-Cellar*, for keeping the merchants goods.

Pool is one of the moſt conſiderable ports in the weſt of England, and ſeveral of its merchants have repreſented it in parliament. It carries on a great trade to the Weſt Indies, to Newfoundland, and, in time of peace, to France; and ſo lately as the year 1750, two hundred and fifty ſhips belonged to it. Here is a great plenty of fiſh, with which this town ſupplies Wiltſhire and the inland parts of Somerſetſhire. This place is particularly remarkable for vaſt plenty of mackarel in the ſeaſon, and for the beſt and largeſt oysters in all this part of England, which alſo contain larger pearls, and more in number than any others in England; they are pickled and barrell'd up here, and ſent not only to London, but to the Weſt Indies, Spain, Italy, and other places. Great quantities of corn, pulſe, and Purbeck ſtone, are alſo exported from this place.

LYME was thus called from a little rivulet of the ſame name that runs by it; it is alſo called *Lyme-Regis*, or *King's Lyme*, probably from its having been annexed to the crown in the reign of King Edward the Firſt. It is diſtant from London one hundred and forty-ſeven miles. King Edward granted it every privilege that is enjoyed even by the city of London, with a court of huſtings, and freedom from all tolls and laſtage. Theſe privileges were confirmed by King Edward the Second and Third, by King James the Firſt, King Charles the Firſt, and King William and Queen Mary. The corporation now conſiſts of a mayor, a recorder, fifteen capital burgesſes, a town-clerk, and other officers. The mayor is a juſtice of the peace during his mayoralty, and the year following; and in the third year he is both juſtice and coroner; two of the capital burgesſes are alſo juſtices of the peace. Here are ſome fine houſes built of free ſtone, and covered with blue ſlate; and as the town is ſituated upon the decli-



vity of a hill, the houses rising gradually one above another, make a fine appearance at a distance. The town has only one church. The harbour at Lyme is one of the finest in the English Channel. There is a rivulet runs through the middle of this town, but as it stands on a high steep rock, the merchants are obliged to lade and unlade their goods at a place called the *Cobb*, a quarter of a mile distant from the town. The Cobb is a massy building, and consists of a firm stone wall, running out a considerable way into the sea, and of a breadth sufficient to admit of warehouses, and carriages on it, besides a house for the custom-house officers. Without this wall, there is another of equal strength, which is carried round the end of the first wall, and forms the entrance into the port, which for safety perhaps is not to be equalled in the world. There are some guns planted at proper distances, both for the defence of the Cobb and of the town. The mayor and burgeses are at the expence of keeping the Cobb in repair, for which end they are properly empowered to provide materials. That part of the town which lies at the foot of the rock, near the sea, is so low, that at spring tides the cellars are overflowed to the height of ten or twelve feet. The custom-house stands upon pillars, and has the corn market underneath it. This town had formerly a considerable trade, particularly to Newfoundland, so that the customs have produced some years upwards of sixteen thousand pounds.

BRIDPORT is situated at the distance of one hundred and thirty-eight miles from London, upon a small river near the coast of the English Channel, and in the great western road. It is the capital of its hundred, and was made a borough by King Henry the Third, by whose charter it was leased to the inhabitants in fee farm, for a small quit rent, into the Exchequer, collected by the bailiffs of the town, and payable at Michaelmas. It was incorporated by King Henry the Eighth, and afterwards by Queen Elizabeth; and by a charter of King James the First, two bailiffs were to be chosen yearly by the capital burgeses, who were to be fifteen, of whom the bailiffs were to be two; and the corporation was empowered to chuse a recorder or town-clerk, who, with the bailiffs in office, and the two preceding bailiffs, were to be justices of the peace. The corporation had a power by this charter

charter to build a prison, to have a common seal, and to hold lands and tenements. The bailiffs were to have all fines, with other privileges, and to have two serjeants to carry maces before them. The town-hall is a mean building, in which, however, the quarter sessions for the county are held at Michaelmas every year. This town has a harbour, which was formerly a good one: and while it was such, this was a place of great trade; but a mortality happened here, which carried off the greatest part of the inhabitants, and the harbour was so much neglected, that the entrance was barred by the sand which the tides threw up; and though an act of parliament passed in 1722, for restoring and rebuilding the haven and piers it has not yet been executed. Vessels of a small burthen, however, come in here, such as coasters and colliers. The staple trade at present is large seins and nets, used in the British fishery; and sailcloth, twine, and other hemp manufactures. The soil between this town and Beaminster is remarkably favourable for the cultivation of hemp. The trade carried on in the above branches, and the resort of travellers, are its chief support.

MELCOMB, called *Melcomb-Regis*, because it was anciently the King's demesne, is separated from Weymouth by a small river called the *Wey*. It is distant from London one hundred and thirty miles, and sent members to parliament in the reign of King Edward the First, before Weymouth had that privilege. In the reign of King Edward the Third it was in so flourishing a state that it was by parliament appointed a staple; but for its quarrels with Weymouth, its privileges as a port were removed to Pool in the reign of King Henry the Sixth, but restored in that of Queen Elizabeth by act of parliament, which was confirmed in the next reign, on condition that Melcomb and Weymouth should make but one corporation, and enjoy their privileges in common; and to this union is owing the present flourishing condition of both. This united corporation consists of a mayor, who is the officer that returns the writs for electing members of parliament, a recorder, two bailiffs, twenty-four capital burgesses, and a number of aldermen, which is necessarily uncertain, because every person who is once a mayor, is an alderman ever afterwards.

Melcomb



Melcomb has four tolerable streets: most of the houses are built of stone, though not very high; and the place is better furnished with dwelling-houses and warehouses than Weymouth. Here is a good market-place and town-hall, to which the members of the corporation of Weymouth come to attend the public business: the inhabitants of Weymouth also in general attend divine service at Melcomb church. The port, however, generally goes by the name of *Weymouth*. It is said to be the best frequented harbour in the county, and is defended by Sandfort and Portland castles. In the reign of King James the First, a commodious bridge of timber, consisting of seventeen arches, was built from Melcombe to Weymouth, chiefly by the contributions of some citizens of London. The bridge having fallen to decay was rebuilt some years ago by Sir Thomas Hardy, William Harvey, John Ward, and Reginald Marriot, Esqrs. who then represented this corporation in parliament.

In consequence of Melcomb-Regis having lately been much frequented by a good deal of company, as a genteel bathing place, it is considerably improved and enlarged. His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester has lately built a handsome house here; and there are very genteel accommodations for those who visit this place in the bathing season. The air is extremely good, and the country pleasant.

WEYMOUTH is part of the town and corporation of Melcomb, and as such has been already in part described. Its situation is low, yet it is a clean agreeable place. It has a custom-house, and a good quay, and formerly carried on a considerable trade to France, Spain, Portugal, and the West Indies; the Newfoundland trade still thrives here; the wine trade is also very considerable; and this place has a large correspondence in the country for the consumption of its returns. The town is one hundred and thirty miles from London.

WAREHAM is one hundred and fifteen miles from London. It had a strong castle built by William the First, of which time has left no traces except that the hill on which it stood is still called *Castle Hill*. At this place lived a recluse called *Peter*, a hermit, who, with his son, was hanged in the reign of

of King John, because he had prophesied that the King should be deposed at a certain time, and offered to suffer death if his prediction was not accomplished; but it does not appear whether he was put to death before the time arrived, or after he incurred the penalty to which he submitted himself.

Wareham stands in the most healthy part of the county, though surrounded with water on every side, having the river Frome on the south, the Piddle on the north, and the bay into which they fall on the east. The inhabitants say that it rose out of the ruins of Stowborough, now a village on the other side of the Frome. It is however reckoned the oldest town in the county, and was once the largest, having had seventeen churches. It was inclosed with walls, and was formerly washed by the sea, which has since retired from it, and was then a harbour of considerable note. It is a corporation, which, by the charter of Queen Anne, consists of a mayor, a recorder, a town-clerk, six capital burgesses, and twelve common-councilmen and their assistants. The mayor, by an old prescriptive right, is coroner not only of this place, but of the Isle of Purbeck, and another small island on the south side of the bay of Pool, called *Brownsea Island*: He has been supreme magistrate here ever since the time of King Henry the Sixth; and the mayor in office, the preceding mayor, and the recorder, are justices of the peace; the officiating mayor and recorder are of the quorum, and are empowered to hold their own sessions. Here are three churches, St. Martin's, Trinity church, and St. Mary's church, which are all three supplied by one minister, who preaches at St. Mary's, the great church, the summer half year, and at the two others, alternately, in the winter. The tower of St. Mary's is the chief ornament of the town. The soil in and about this place produces large quantities of garlick; but the chief trade of the town is in tobacco-pipe clay, of which the best in Great Britain is dug out of a hill in the neighbourhood, called *Hunger Hill*.

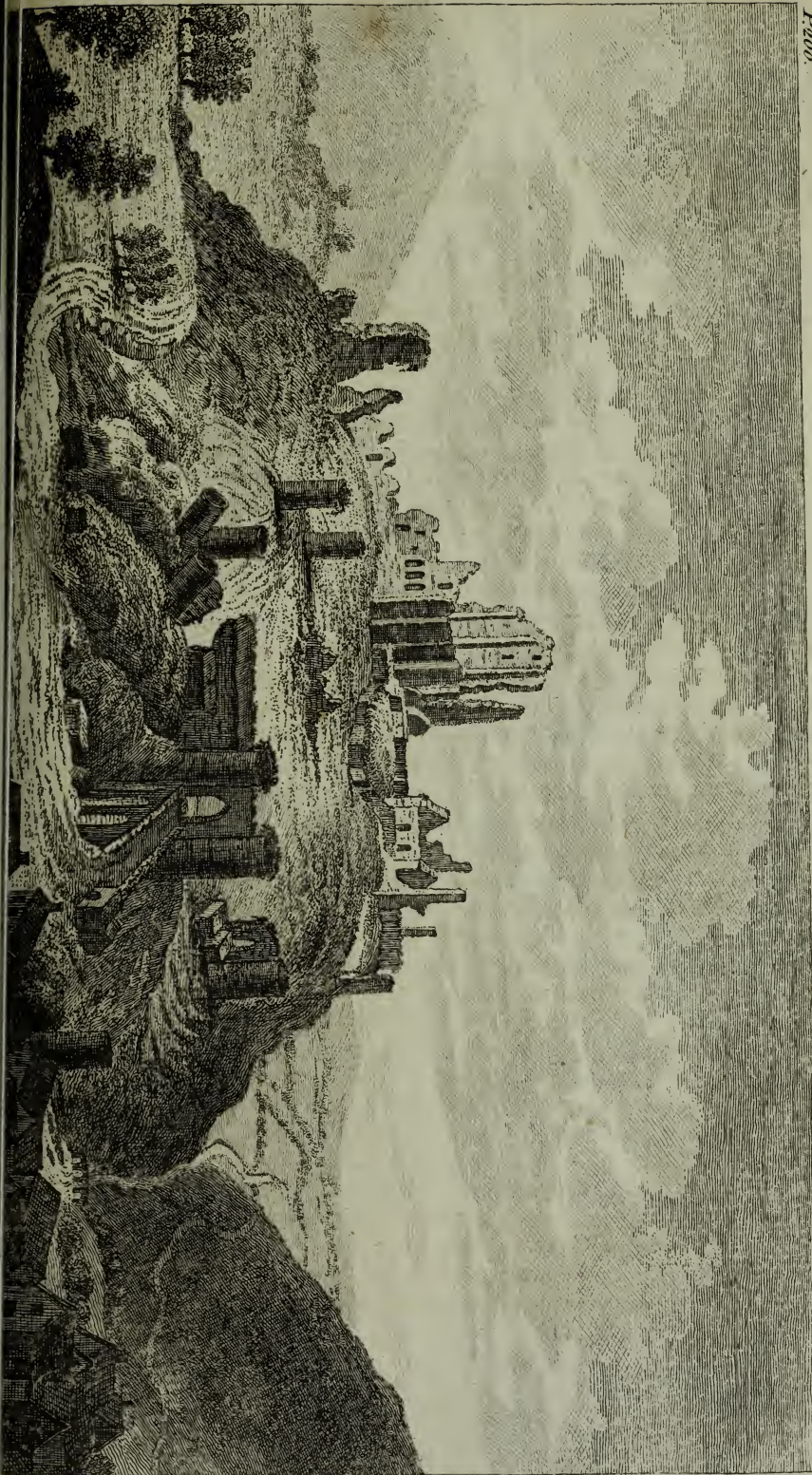
On Sunday, July 25, 1762, about three in the afternoon, during divine service, a dreadful fire broke out in the centre of the town, which lasted several hours, and consumed one hundred and thirty-three houses, besides other buildings. The loss was estimated at one hundred thousand pounds, exclusive of insurances; and the Sun-Fire-Office paid near ten thousand pounds



pounds to the insured sufferers. Since the above conflagration, the town has been greatly improved in point of buildings.

CORFE CASTLE stands in the middle of that part of the county called *The Isle of Purbeck*, at the distance of one hundred and twenty miles from London. It derives its name from a castle, now in ruins, supposed to have been built by King Edgar, who kept his court here, and endowed the town with several privileges. This castle stands a little north of the town, opposite to the church, on a very steep rocky hill, mingled with hard rubble chalk stone, in the opening of those ranges of hills that enclose the eastern part of the island of Purbeck. Its situation between the ends of these hills deprives it of much of its natural and artificial strength, being so commanded by them that they overlook the tops of the highest towers; yet the structure is so strong, the ascent of the hill on all sides (except the south) so steep, and the walls so massy and thick, that it must have been one of the most impregnable fortresses in the kingdom before the invention of artillery. It was of great importance in respect of its command over the whole island; whence our Saxon ancestors justly stiled it *Corfe Gate*, as being the pass and avenue into the best part of the island. It is about half a mile in circumference, and appears to have been a magnificent structure of an oval form. It is separated from the town by a very deep ditch, now dry, but water might formerly have been brought into it. Over this ditch is a stately bridge, of four very high, narrow, round arches.—That it was a place of great importance in the time of King Henry the Third is manifest from history; for when Simon Montfort took that Prince prisoner, in the forty-second year of his reign, it was one of the three fortresses which he required to be delivered up to him; and it was afterwards chosen by Mortimer for the prison of King Edward the Second. It was repaired by King Henry the Seventh, and afterwards by King Charles the First, for whom it was a garrison; but being taken by the parliament forces, they plundered and demolished it.

Corfe Castle was a long time a borough by prescription, and afterwards incorporated by Queen Elizabeth. King Charles the Second also, as a reward for the gallant defence every







the castle made for him, granted an exemption from toll, arrests, suits or service without the borough; and besides every other privilege in common with the Cinque ports, the peculiar honour of baron to its principal members, the style of the letters of incorporation being *The Mayor and Barons of Corfe Castle*; and all the barons that have served the office of mayor are justices of the peace, and can hold sessions, chuse coroners, and ale-tasters during life. The lord of the manor is, by inheritance, lord lieutenant of the isle of Purbeck; has power to appoint all officers, and to determine all actions by his bailiffs and deputies; has all shipwrecks in the isle, and a freedom from the court of admiralty. This town has a large and lofty church, which is a royal peculiar, not liable to any episcopal visitation or jurisdiction, and has a chapel of ease about a mile out of town.

WIMBORN-MINSTER, or WINBORN-MISTER, had formerly a monastery, whence *Minster* was added to the name of *Wimborn*. In the time of the Romans it was one of the two winter stations for their legions in this country, Dorchester being the other. The summer station was a hill called *Badbury*, two miles distant from this town. It is one hundred and eight miles from London, and is situated near the conflux of the rivers Stour and Allen. This is the largest parish in the county: The church is a noble edifice, built in the manner of a cathedral, one hundred and eighty feet long, with a fine tower in the middle, and a spire said to have been taller than any in the kingdom, which fell down in 1610. There is another tower at the west end of the church, and each of these towers is ninety feet high. King Etheldred, brother of King Alfred, lies buried in this church, under a marble tomb, on which is the effigy of a King crowned, a half length, and this inscription: "*In hoc loco quiescit corpus S. Etheldredi Regis West Saxonum, Martyris, qui, Anno Domini 882. 23. Aprilis, per manus Danorum Paganorum occubuit.*"—Here is the only choir in the county, consisting of four singing men, six boys, and an organist. A very fine free-school was founded here by Margaret Countess of Richmond, mother to King Henry the Seventh, the stipend of which Queen Elizabeth augmented, and annexed it to the foundation. This is a populous place, and is chiefly supported by knitting stockings. It has been



greatly improved of late years, and makes a very neat and pleasing appearance.

STURMINSTER-NEWTON took its name probably from its having been once a monastery, or minster, upon the river Stour, and joined by a stone bridge over that river to another town called *Newton Castle*, of which there are now scarcely any remains. This town is distant from London one hundred and eleven miles, and is a mean obscure place.

FRAMPTON, or FROMETON, derives its name from its situation upon the river Frome, at the distance of one hundred and twenty-nine miles from London. It is remarkable only for its excellent trouts, and the mansion-house of Mr. Brown, which is a noble structure, built of Portland stone, about eighty feet in front. It stands on the north-east confines of the county, and is one of the largest parishes in it, being above forty miles in circumference.

MILTON-ABBAS is situated south-west of Blandford, at the distance of one hundred and thirteen miles from London, and has nothing remarkable except its abbey, on the site of which Lord Milton has built an elegant house, a description of which we shall give in our account of the remarkable seats in this county. Here is a free-school, to which is annexed a handsome stipend.—St. Catharine's chapel, on the hill above this town, is now converted into a pigeon-house.

STALBRIDGE is one hundred and eleven miles from London, and is a small town, having nothing worthy of note besides a large and ancient house, which was formerly the residence of the celebrated Peter Walters, whose character is delineated in the satires of Mr. Pope. It is now the property of Lord Paget.

EVERSHOT stands upon the borders of Somersetshire, one hundred and twenty-eight miles from London, and is a small obscure town. Here is, however, a grammar school, tolerably well endowed.

CRANBOURN is distant from London ninety-four miles, and is pleasantly situated in a healthy sporting country, near  
a very

a very large chace. It is well watered, and is a pretty little town.

CERNE-ABBEY is distant from London one hundred and twenty-three miles, and is a small market-town, pleasantly situated in a vale surrounded with steep hills. Its chief trade is corn and ale. It was anciently famous for its abbey, founded by Ailmer Earl of Cornwall, in the close of the eighth century, for Benedictine monks, on the spot where tradition pretends St. Augustine, in proof of his mission, caused a spring to issue out of the earth, which is still called by his name. All the remains of this house are its gateway, adorned with the arms of the founder and benefactors, and a very large stone barn, better preserved than that of Abbotsbury. What is called *The Abbey-House*, at the head of the High-street, is a mansion-house, built in the last century out of the ruins.

BERE-REGIS stands upon a rivulet of its own name, near its influx into the river Piddle, at the distance of one hundred and fifteen miles from London.

BEAMISTER is distant from London one hundred and forty miles, and has a good charity-school, but nothing else that is remarkable. It has suffered greatly by fires, particularly by one which happened in the spring of the year 1781, by which a very considerable part of the town was destroyed.

ABBOTSBURY is distant from London one hundred and thirty one miles. It is a small decayed market-town, and is eminent only for the inconsiderable ruins of a monastery, founded by Orcus, steward of the household to King Canute; and for Lord Ilchester's noble swannery, containing between six and seven hundred swans, with a decoy, a little west of the town. Near half of a large romantic barn built of stone still remains, and St. Catharine's chapel, a pretty entire building on the top of the hill that overlooks the town. At the end of a ridge of hills, a mile and an half west of the town, is Abbotsbury Castle, an old fortification nearly square, two sides double ditched. Vast quantities of mackarel are annually taken on the coast, from hence to Portland, which are sold extremely cheap.



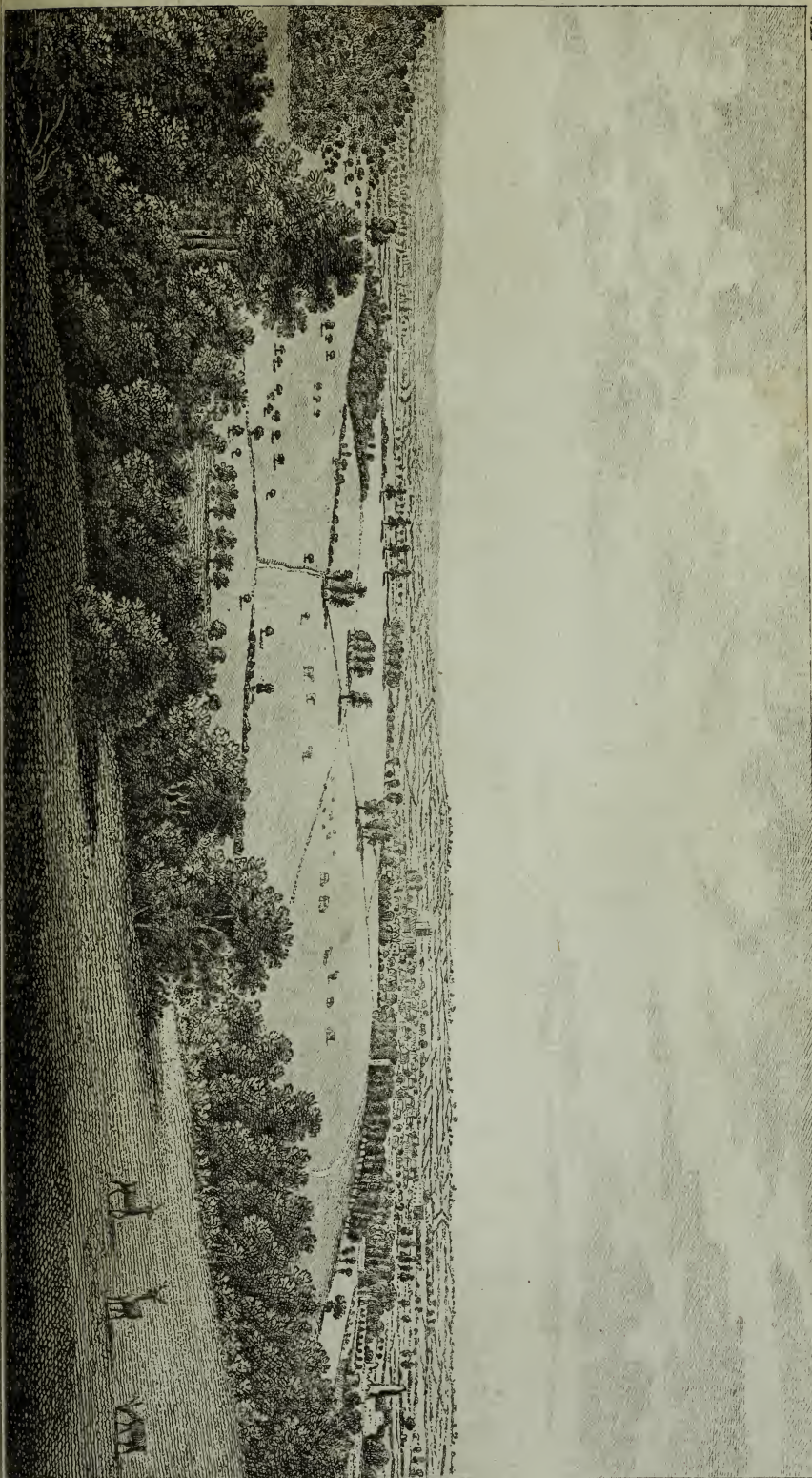
## REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &amp;c.

*Sherborne Lodge*, the seat of Lord Digby, situated in his Lordship's park, near the town of Sherborne, was built by the celebrated Sir Walter Raleigh. It is built in the form of the letter H. There is a fine piece of water on the north side of the house, which has all the appearance of a fine navigable river, and has indeed a small rivulet running through it; over which a very handsome bridge has been erected by Mr. Mylne, architect of Black Friars bridge. There is a fine shady walk of lofty trees in the gardens, called *Sir Walter Raleigh's Grove*. The park contains five hundred acres, and four hundred head of deer.

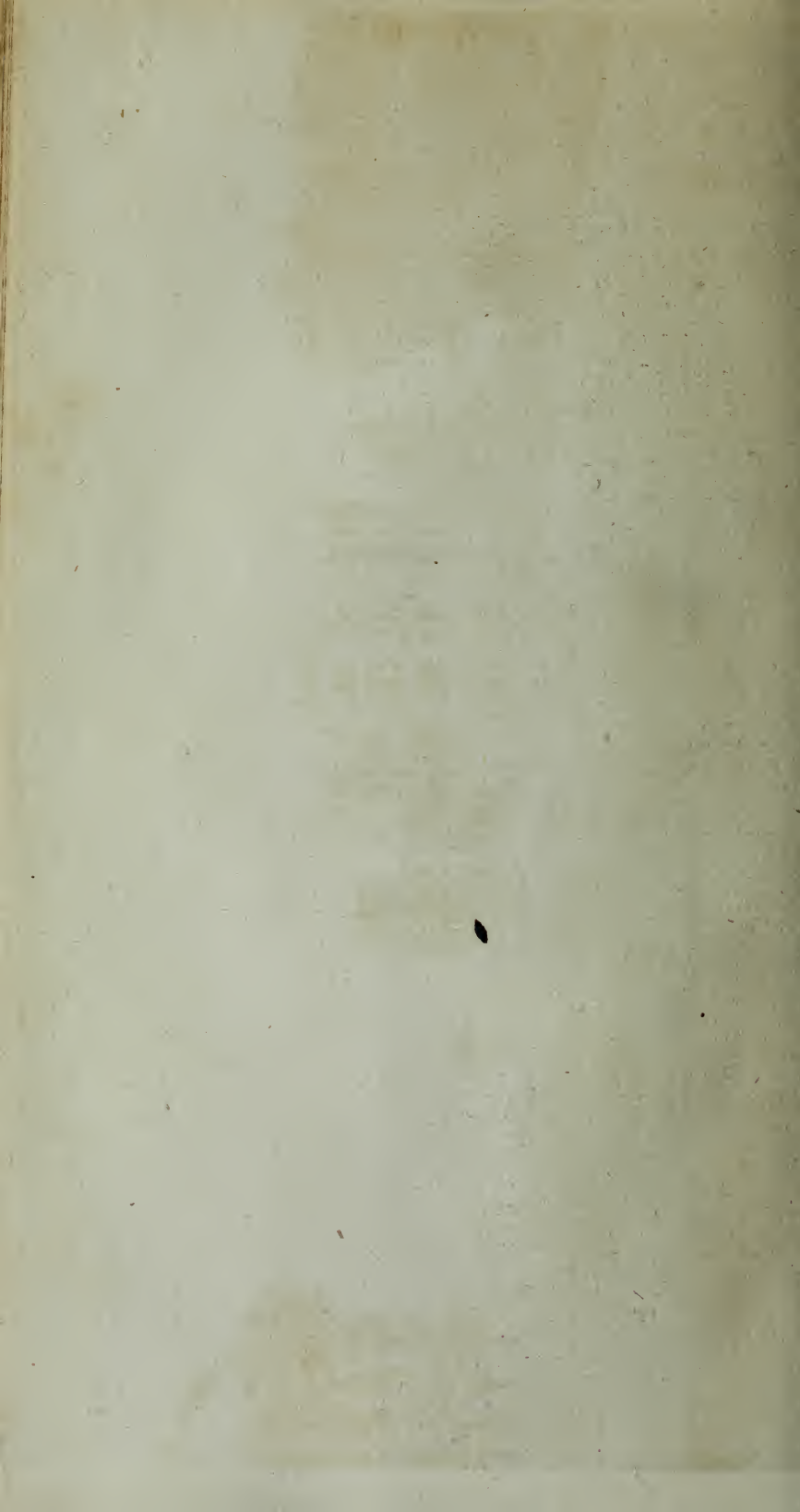
The ingenious Mr. Horace Walpole very justly observes of this seat, that "The ruins of the Bishop's Castle, Sir  
" Walter Raleigh's Grove, the house built by him and the  
" first Earl of Bristol, the siege the castle sustained in the  
" civil war, a grove planted by Mr. Pope, and the noble lake  
" made by the last Lord, concur to make that seat one of the  
" most venerable and beautiful in England."

*Wimborn St. Giles*, in the neighbourhood of Wimborn, is a very fine seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury, and adjoining to it is a park two miles round. The garden is pleasant and spacious; the river Allen runs through it, and it is adorned with several pieces of water, pleasure-houses, statues, &c. Here is one of the finest grottoes in England, consisting of two parts: The innermost and largest is furnished with a variety of curious shells, disposed in the most beautiful manner; the outer, or ante-grotto, with ores and minerals of all kinds, collected from various parts of the world. The arrangement took up two years; and, with the expence of collecting the shells, ores, &c. cost ten thousand pounds.

*Milton-Abbey* is the seat of Lord Milton, who has made improvements here of the most capital kind, which so happily unite with the beauties of the ground as to render the whole uncommonly fine. The great peculiarity of the place is a remarkable winding valley, three miles long, surrounded on every side by hills, whose variety is very great. It is all lawn; and, as the surface has many fine swells, and other gentle irregularities, the effect is every where beautiful. The hills,













hills, on one side, are thickly covered with wood, from the edging of the vale itself, quite spreading over the tops of the hills: These continued sweeps of hanging woods are very noble. In some places, they form bold projections, which break forward in a pleasing stile; in others they withdraw, and open fine bosoms of wood, which are singularly picturesque. Throughout the whole, the union of lawn and wood is admirable. Milton Abbey is one of the most ancient buildings in England, having been founded by King Athelstan.

*Melbury Sampford*, near Evershott, is a handsome seat of the Earls of Ilchester. The present house was built in 1713. The principal front is adorned with six Corinthian pilasters, and before it is a large canal. In the north west corner is an ancient tower, mentioned by Leland as just built in his time. The shrubbery belonging to it is very extensive, and laid out with great taste and elegance.

At *Clifton*, near Sherborne, are the remains of an ancient seat, which formerly belonged to the celebrated Peter Walters, Esq; but which is now the property of Lord Paget. There is a noble gateway belonging to it, which is much and deservedly admired, as being an elegant imitation of the genuine stile of the Gothic architecture.

Mr. Pleydell's seat at *Milborn St. Andrew's*, is a handsome stone building, surrounded with pleasant avenues and pieces of water.

At *Steeple*, in the island of Purbeck, is the elegant seat of John Bond, Esq; agreeably inclosed with planting and water, in the midst of a dreary heath.

At *Great Mintern*, near Cerne, is the seat of Admiral Digby, brother to Lord Digby.

At *Moore Critchell*, near Cranborne, is the seat of Humphrey Sturt, Esq; which has lately been greatly improved and enlarged.

*Hooke-Castle,*



*Hooke Castle*, nine miles from Dorchester, is the seat of the Duke of Bolton.

*Lulworth Castle*, near Dorchester, is the seat of Mr. Wyld. It was built in the reign of James the First, by the Earl of Suffolk, after a design of Inigo Jones.

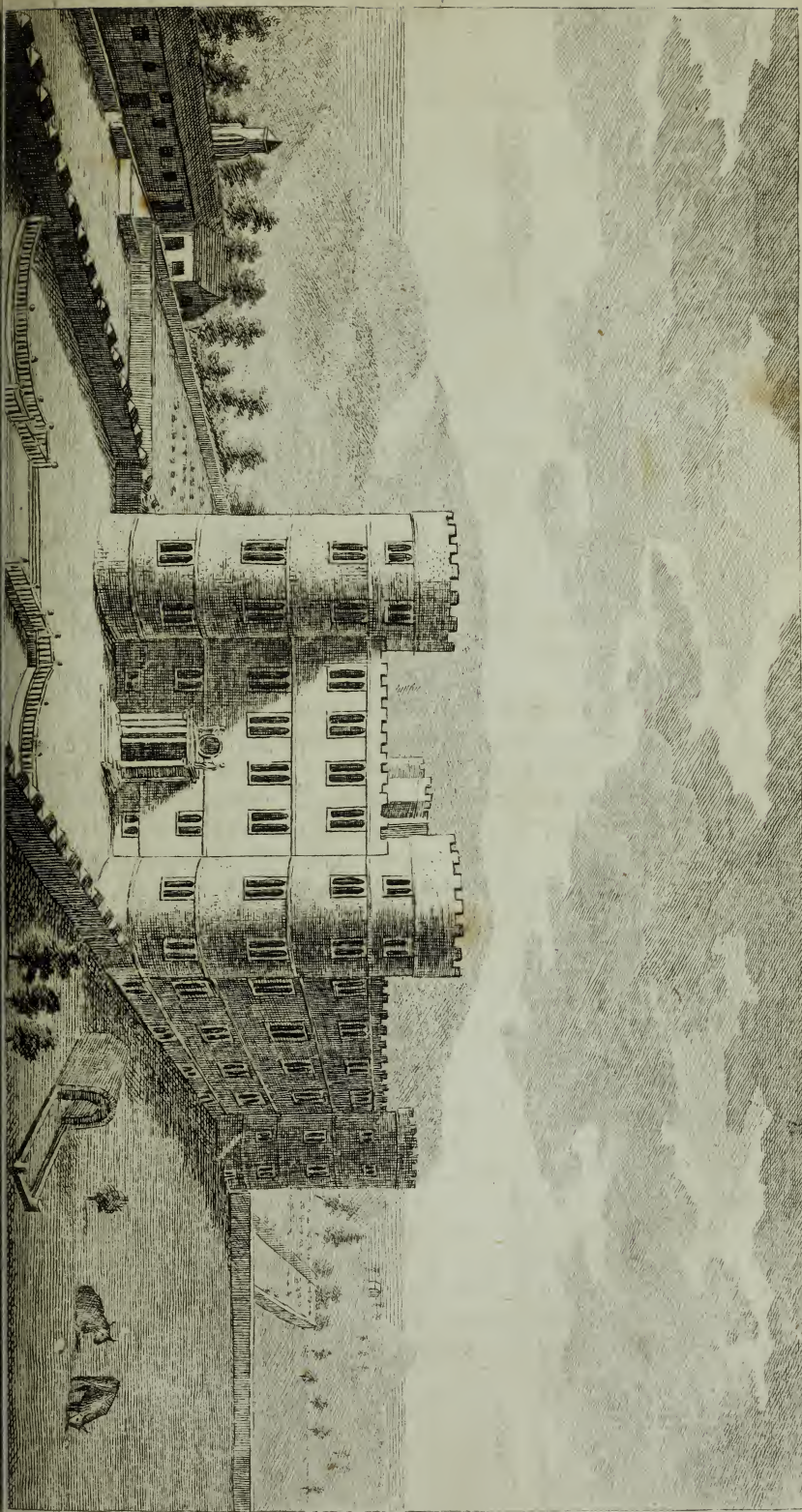
*Cranbourn-House*, eleven miles from Shaftesbury, is the seat of the Earl of Salisbury.

*Brianston*, about a mile from Blandford, is the seat of Henry Portman, Esq.

*Buckland*, six miles from Dorchester, is the seat of Earl Pawlet.

At *Piddleton*, four miles from Dorchester, is a seat of the Earl of Oxford.

There is in this county a peninsula, called *Portland Island*, the sea having formerly flowed round it, though it is now joined to the main by a beach, called *Cheffil Bank*, which the surge has thrown up. Whence *Portland* derives its name is not certainly known; some suppose from its situation opposite the port of *Weymouth*, and others from a Saxon, who possessed himself of it about the year 513. It is scarcely seven miles in compass, and but thinly inhabited; for though it affords plenty of corn and pasture, yet wood and coal are so scarce, that the inhabitants are forced to dry the dung of their black cattle for fuel. The land here is so high, that in clear weather it gives a prospect above half way over the English channel. The island is rendered inaccessible by high and dangerous rocks, except on the north side, where it is defended by a strong castle that was built by King Henry the Eighth, called *Portland Castle*, and another erected on the opposite shore, called *Sandford Castle*. These command all ships that come into the road, which, for its strong current setting in from the English and French coasts, is called *Portland-Race*. These currents render it always turbulent, and have frequently driven vessels not aware of them to the west of *Portland*, and wrecked them on the *Cheffil Bank*, on the two points of which there are light-houses, to warn the mariner







of his danger. This peninsula is famous for its quarries of excellent stone, called Portland stone, reckoned the best in the kingdom for duration and beauty.

A new church has been erected on this island within a few years, the old one being in a very ruinous state, in consequence of the inroads of the sea. The new one is situated farther from the sea, and consequently is less exposed to its attacks.

*Cheffil Bank* is a continuation of Portland Island, reaching north-west to Abbotsbury, near seven miles, and running parallel to the shore, between which and the bank there is an inlet of water which forms a lake, and which, in some places, is half a mile over.

There is another peninsula in this county, supposed also to have been once surrounded by the sea, called *Purbeck Island*. It is situated between Wareham and the English channel.— This island produces some of the best tobacco pipe clay in the world, and is about twelve miles in length, and ten in breadth. It comprehends two hundreds; and nature seems to have divided it into two parts, by two ranges of high hills. The eastern part is most fertile, a deep rich country, but stony. Near Langton and Swanwich we meet with some wood, the remains of a large forest. Most of the western part of the island is a barren, heathy, and open country: but interspersed with some spots of fertile land. The air is healthy, the soil generally a deep clay, and in the east and south parts very stony; so that the roads are always unpleasant, and in winter almost impassable. On the high grounds corn grows; but the strong soil and frequent fogs make the harvest late. There is also pasture for some sheep.

The quarries, shores, and cliffs, on the south side, afford an inexhaustible fund of natural curiosities. The former are chiefly near Kingston, Worth, Langton, and Swanwich. In many parts of the island is a stone, that rises thin, and is used for tiling; also a hard paving stone, which sweats against change of weather. Much of it was used in re-building London after the fire, and particularly St. Paul's cathedral; and for paving the streets and courts. In the new bridge at Westminster, over the soffit of each arch built with large Portland block, is another arch of Purbeck, bounded in with  
Portland



Portland stone. Great quantities were carried to build Ramsgate pier. This is the ammites, sand-stone or free-stone, of various colours and qualities. At Swanwich is a white stone, full of shells, which takes a polish, and looks like alabaster; there is another of the same sort, but not so hard. All over the heath, in this island, and about Wareham and Morden, is found a stone of an iron colour, called fire-stone; it rises in blocks, sometimes very large; the surface is hard and smooth, but the inside is of a gritty sandy substance; there is a kind of a quarry of it at East-Holme.

At and near Dunshay was formerly dug marble of several colours, blue, red, spotted, and grey, but chiefly the latter; all of a coarse sort. The grey is a congeries of shells. Vast quantities of it are found in all our ancient churches; and it was in great repute for grave-stones and monuments. The pillars in Salisbury cathedral are thought to be composed of this marble.

At *Hermitage*, a village about seven miles south of Sherborne, there is a chasm in the earth, whence a large plot of ground, with trees and hedges upon it, were removed entire to the distance of forty rods, by an earthquake, which happened on the 13th of January, 1585.

On the south side of a very steep hill, north of Cerne, is cut in chalk, a monstrous human figure, called *The Giant*, one hundred and eighty feet high; his left leg extended, his right hand holding a knotty club. Some figures, as of a date, appear between his legs. It is not easy to assign the origin of this figure, unless we suppose it represents some Saxon idol or hero. On the top of the hill over him, has been an ancient fortification, and on the north point of the hill a barrow.

*Woodbury Hill*, near Bere-Regis, is a large handsome Roman camp of about ten acres, treble trenched, within which is held one of the greatest fairs in the west for goods of all kinds, particularly hops, cloth, cheese, and horses. Near the road between Bloxworth and Wareham, on the heath, is *Wools barrow*, or *Oldbury*, a little Danish camp, surrounded with tumuli.

The

The vale or forest of *Blakemore*, comprehending a large tract in the north west part of the county between Cerne and Sherborne, was anciently well wooded, but now consists chiefly of pasture, being very well watered. It is also called *White Hart Forest*, from a tradition that a white hart, whose life King Henry the Third had spared in the chase, being afterwards killed by Sir Thomas Delalind, a neighbouring gentleman, an annual payment called *White Hart Silver*, was laid on his and his companions lands, which is still continued.

Near Shillingston, a village upon the Stour, not far from Sturminster, there are two hills, one called *Hamildon Hill*, and the other *Hodde Hill*; Hamildon Hill is fortified with a triple rampart, and Hodde Hill with only a single one. It is certain they were both camps; but as they were neither of them mentioned by Antoninus in his Itinerary, they can scarcely be supposed to have been thrown up the Romans, and therefore are generally thought to be Danish or British.

Among the curiosities of this county, must be reckoned the rising and falling of the water in *Luxford Lake*, by Pool, which is said to ebb and flow four times every twenty-four hours.





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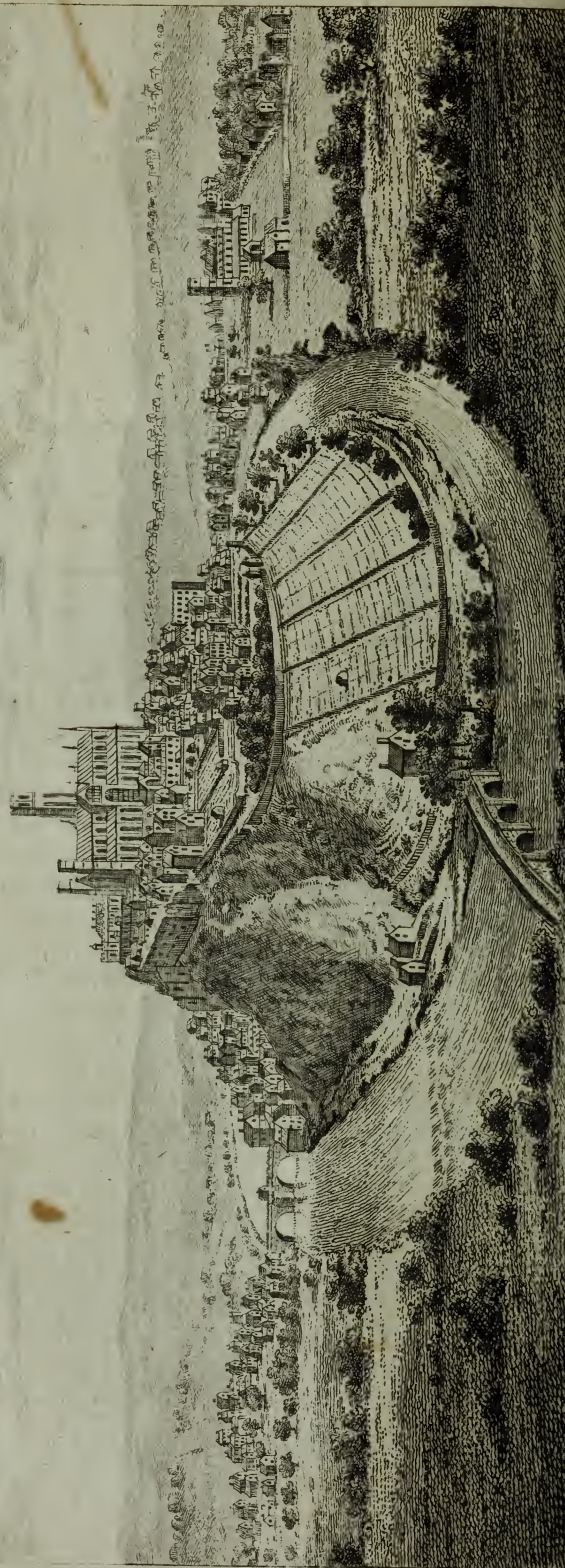
## D U R H A M.

**T**HIS county takes its name from the city of Durham, and is sometimes called the Bishopric, and sometimes the County Palatine of Durham, having formerly been a kind of royalty, under the jurisdiction of a bishop, subordinate to the crown. It is bounded by Northumberland on the north, by the river Tees, which divides it from Yorkshire on the south, by the German ocean on the east, and by parts of the counties of Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Northumberland on the west. It is of a triangular figure, measures thirty-nine miles in length, from east to west, thirty-five in breadth, from north to south, and one hundred and seven in circumference. This county is divided not into hundreds, but, like the county of Cumberland, into wards or wakes, of which it contains four. It has one city and seven market-towns. It lies in the province of York, is a diocese of itself, and contains fifty-two parishes.

The air of this county is healthy, and though sharp in the western parts, is yet mild and pleasant towards the sea, the warm vapours of which mitigate the cold, which, in a situation so far north, must be severe in the winter season. The soil is also different; the western parts are mountainous and barren, the rest of the county is beautiful, and, like the southern counties, finely diversified with meadows, pastures, corn-fields, and woods. It abounds with inexhaustible mines of lead and iron, and particularly coal, called Newcastle coal, from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in Northumberland, the port where it is shipped to supply the city of London, and the greatest part of England. The rivers abound with fish, particularly salmon, known in London by the name of Newcastle salmon; and these two articles include almost the whole traffic of the place. The coal trade of this county is one great nursery for seamen; and the ports of Durham supply the royal navy with more men than any other in the kingdom.







In this county there are sixteen rivers, the chief of which are the *Tees* and the *Were*. The *Tees* rises on the borders of Cumberland, and running east-south-east, receives, besides several less considerable streams, the *Laden*, the *Hude*, the *Lune*, the *Bauder*, and the *Skern*; then running north-north-east, it falls into the German Ocean. The *Were* is formed of three small streams called the *Kellop*, the *Wellop*, and the *Burdop*, which rise near one another in the west part of the county, and within three miles of the head of the *Tees*. The *Were*, thus formed, runs eastward, receives the *Gaunless*, and several smaller streams, and then by many windings, it directs its course north-east, and passing by the city of Durham, falls into the German Sea at Sunderland.

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### C I T Y.

The City of DURHAM is two hundred and fifty-six miles from London, and is said to have been built above seventy years before the Norman invasion. It is finely situated upon a hill, and is almost surrounded by the river *Were*. The approach to this city is romantic, through a deep hollow, clothed on each side with wood. It was first incorporated by King Richard the First, and was anciently governed by bailiffs, appointed by the bishops, and afterwards by an alderman and twelve burgesses. Queen Elizabeth gave it a mayor and aldermen, and common-council; but it is now governed under a charter procured by Bishop Crew of King Charles the Second, by twelve aldermen, twelve common councilmen, a recorder, town-clerk, and other officers, who can hold a court-leet and court-baron within their city, under the stile of the Bishop, for the time being. They keep also a court, instituted to regulate disorders at fairs, called a *Pye Powder Court*, from *pied*, foot, and *poulder*, dusty, because it was held only during the fair, and made its determinations after a summary examination, before the dust was shaken from the feet of the suitors. The fairs pay about twenty pounds a year toll to the Bishop or his lessee. The Bishop of Durham is a temporal prince, being Earl of Sadbergh, a small town near Stockton, which he holds by barony; he is sheriff paramount of this county, and appoints his deputy, who makes up his audit to him, without accounting to the



Exchequer. He is also a count palatine, lord of the city, and appoints all officers of justice and other inferior magistrates.

The situation of this city is so pleasant and healthy, and the country in which it stands so plentiful, that it is much frequented by the neighbouring gentry. It is surrounded by a fortified wall, and is about one mile long, and one broad. The form of it is compared to that of a crab, the market-place resembling the body, and the streets the claws. The principal building in it is the cathedral, which is dedicated to Christ and the Virgin Mary. It is a magnificent pile, four hundred and eleven feet long and eighty broad, with three spacious isles, one in the middle, and one at each end; that in the middle is one hundred and seventy feet long, the eastern isle is one hundred and thirty-two feet long, and the western one hundred feet. In the western isle was a chapel of the Virgin Mary, called *Galilee*: the outside of this chapel was adorned with two handsome spires, covered with lead, the towers of which are still standing. In the north tower there were four large bells, three of which, soon after the reformation, were added to three in the middle tower, but they have been since cast into eight. The eastern isle was formerly called *The Nine Altars*, because in the front facing the church there were so many erected, that is, there were four in the north, part of the isle, four in the south, and one in the middle. The middle one, which was dedicated to St. Cuthbert, the patron of the church, was the most beautiful, and near it was a rich shrine of that saint. The whole building is strongly vaulted, and supported by large pillars. The wainscot of the choir is well wrought, and the organ large and good, and the front of marble. There is a handsome screen at the entrance into the choir, which is one hundred and seventeen feet long, and thirty-three broad. Many of the windows are very curious, particularly the middle window to the east, which is called *The Catharine Wheel*, or *St. Catharine's Window*: it comprehends all the breadth of the choir, and is composed of twenty-four lights. In the south end of the church was a window, called *St. Cuthbert's*, in which was painted the history of the life and miracles of that saint. On the north side was a third window, on which the history of Joseph was painted, and which was therefore called *Joseph's Window*. In the chapel called *Galilee*, the women, who  
were

were not allowed to go farther up than a line of marble by the side of the front, used to hear divine service, and it then contained sixteen altars, for the celebration of the mass, but it is now used for holding the consistory court. The chapter-house, in which sixteen bishops are interred, is a stately room, seventy-five feet long, and thirty-three broad, with an arched roof of stone, and a beautiful seat at the upper end, for the instalment of the bishops. The decorations of this church are said to be richer than those of any other church in England, it having suffered less by the alienation of its revenues than any other cathedral. King Henry the Eighth established the present endowment of this church for a dean, twelve prebendaries, twelve minor canons, a deacon, subdeacon, sixteen lay singing men, a schoolmaster, usher, master of the choristers, a divinity reader, eight almsmen, eighteen scholars, ten choristers, two vergers, two porters, two cooks, two butlers, and two sacristans.

This cathedral is adorned with a fine cloister on the south side, formerly glazed with painted glass. On the east side is the chapter-house, the deanery, and a building called *The Old Library*. On the west side is the dormitory, and under that are the treasury and song-house. On the north side is the new library, which is a large lightsome building, begun by Dean Sudbury, on the side of the old common refectory of a convent.

Besides the cathedral, there are six parish churches, three of which stand in the principal or middle part of the town, and the other three in the suburbs. Those in the city are St. Nicholas, or the City Church, which stands in the market-place; St. Oswald's, commonly called *Elvet Church*; and St. Margaret's, called *Cross Gate Church*, which is a parochial chapel to St. Oswald. Those in the suburbs are St. Giles's, commonly called *Gilly-Gate Church*; St. Mary's the Great, commonly called *North Bailey Church*; and St. Mary's the Less, called *South Bailey Church*; St. Mary's the Great is also called *Bow Church*; because before it was rebuilt, its steeple stood on an arch crossing the street.

South of the cathedral is the college, a quadrangular pile of building, inclosing a spacious court. It consists at present of houses for the prebendaries; and the greatest part of it has been either new built, or very much improved since the restoration. Opposite to the college gate, upon the east side is the  
Exchequer.



Exchequer. At the west end was the Guest-Hall, for the entertainment of strangers, and near it is the granary, and other offices of the convent. On the north side of the cathedral is the college school, with a house for the master; and between the church-yard and what is called *The Castle*, or *The Bishop's Palace*, is an area, called *The Palace Green*. To the west of this is the shire-hall, where the assizes and sessions are held for the county, and near it is a fine library, built by Dr. Cosin, who was bishop of this see in the time of Charles the Second, and the Exchequer built by Dr. Nevil, who was bishop afterwards. In the Exchequer are the offices belonging to the county palatine court. On the east side of the cathedral is an hospital, built and endowed by Bishop Cosin; and there are two schools, one at each end of it, founded by Bishop Tangle, and new built by Bishop Cosin. On the north side of the cathedral is the castle, which afterwards became the bishop's palace. It was built by William the Norman, and the outer gate of it is now the county gaol.

Both the abbey or cathedral of Durham, and the castle, are pleasantly situated on the summit of a high cliff, whose foot is washed on two sides by the river Were. The walks, on the opposite banks are very beautiful, flagged in the middle, and paved on the side, and are well kept. They are cut through the woods, impend over the river, and receive a venerable improvement from the castle and ancient cathedral, which soar above.

The other public buildings of this city are the Tolbooth, by which may be understood the custom-house, which stands near St. Nicholas's church; the cross, and a conduit, both in the market-place; there are also two stone bridges over the river Were.

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## MARKET-TOWNS.

SUNDERLAND, which is ten miles from Durham, eighteen from the mouth of the river Tees, and two hundred and sixty-nine miles from London, is situated on the south bank of the river Were, and is a populous well built borough and sea-port, and has a very fine church. It is noted for its coal trade, from which it derives great wealth; and the coal of this place

place is so remarkable for burning slowly, that it is said to make three fires. The port is so shallow, that the ships are obliged to take in their loading in the open road, which is sometimes very dangerous to the keelmen or lightermen that bring the coals down to the ships; therefore the ships which load here are generally smaller than those in the neighbouring ports, but as they ride in the open sea, they are ready to sail as soon as they can get in their loading, which is a very considerable advantage; for they have been known to sail, to deliver their coals in London, to beat up against the wind in their return, and to get back, before the ships at Shields, a considerable port at the mouth of the Tyne, which was loaded before them, had been able to get over the bar.

DARLINGTON is situated upon the river Skern, at the distance of two hundred and thirty-eight miles from London. It is a large market and post town, and a great thoroughfare from London to Berwick. It is one of the four ward towns in the county of Durham, and is one of the most considerable places in the north of England for the manufacture of linen, particularly that sort called *Huckabacks*, used for table-cloths and napkins, of which great quantities are sent to London and other places. Some fine linen cloth is also made here, and the water of the Skern is so famous for bleaching, that linen is sent from Scotland to this town to be bleached.

BARNARD'S CASTLE is two hundred and forty-five miles from London, on the north side of the river Tees, and is an handsome well built town, but consists only of one main street, and several lanes branching out. The chief manufactures are stockings, bridles, and belts. This place has its name from a castle built here by Barnard, great-grandson of John Baliol. The ruins of this structure still remain.—In the reign of Edward the Fourth, the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard the Third, erected a college here for a dean and canons; and in the same reign an hospital was founded for a master and three poor women.

MARWOOD is a little town, higher up the same river, noted also for the stocking manufacture, and a park which extends itself from thence to Barnard's castle.

STOCKTON



STOCKTON is eighteen miles from Durham, and two hundred and forty eight from London. It is situated on the river Tees, about two miles from its mouth. It is a corporation town, governed by a mayor and aldermen, and is one of the four ward towns of this county. It is well built, and a place of great resort and business, and its trade, and the number of its inhabitants are so much increased, that a church has been erected in the place of a little old chapel. The river Tees is capable of bearing ships of good burthen at this place, but the current is frequently dangerous. For the management of the port there is a collector of the customs, and other inferior officers. Here is a good trade to London for lead, butter, and bacon; and there is a course near the town where there are frequent horse-races. The port of Stockton is a member of the town of Newcastle, as appears by a commission returned into the Exchequer in the reign of King Charles the Second, and by a report made in the third year of King George the Second, of the dimensions of its three lawful quays for the shipping and landing goods.

BISHOP'S AUKLAND is six miles from Durham, and two hundred and fifty from London. It was formerly called *North Aukland*, to distinguish it from another place, not far distant, called *Aukland*. Both are situated in a district of this county called *Auklandshire*, from which they derive their name. *Aukland* is probably a corruption of *Oakland*, the land of oaks, this part of the county containing several fine forests, and abounding in oak trees. This town afterwards becoming a market-town, was called *Market Aukland*, and is now called *Bishop's Aukland*, from a palace which belongs to the bishops of this see. It is situated near the conflux of the rivers Were and Gaunlefs, is reckoned one of the best towns in the county, and has a stone bridge over the Were. The palace was built, or rather improved, by Anthony Beck, who was bishop of Durham in the reign of Edward the First. In the civil wars of 1641, it fell into the hands of Sir Arthur Haslerig, baronet, a commander in the parliament army, who pulled most of it down, and built a new house with the materials. Upon the restoration it came into the hands of Bishop Cosin, who pulled down the house built by Haslerig, and added a large apartment to what remained of the old building. He also erected a chapel in it, where he lies buried,  
from

from which time it was called *Bishop's Auckland*, and founded and endowed an hospital for two married men, and two married women.

HARTLEPOOL is two hundred and fifty-eight miles from London, and stands on a little promontory, six miles north of the Tees, and is encompassed on all sides, except the east, by the sea. It is an ancient corporation, and has a safe harbour. The town depends almost entirely on fishing, and on the harbour, which is much frequented by colliers, especially in strefs of weather : but the market is now much reduced. The shore affords an agreeable prospect to those who sail by, exhibiting a pleasing variety of corn fields, meadows, villages, and other rural scenes.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

*Raby Castle*, the seat of the Earl of Darlington, is situated north-east of the town called *Barnard's Castle*. It is a noble massy building of its kind, uninjured by any modern strokes inconsistent with the general taste of the edifice ; but simply magnificent, it strikes by its magnitude, and that idea of strength and command naturally annexed to the view of vast walls, lofty towers, battlements, and the surrounding out-works of an old baron's residence. The building itself, besides the courts, covers an acre of land ; the size may from thence be concluded. The south front of it is very beautiful, the centre of it is from a design of Inigo Jones ; nothing in the Gothic taste can be more elegant than the stile and proportion of the windows. The rooms are very numerous, and more modern in their proportion and distribution than one would easily conceive to be possible within the walls of so ancient a building ; but by means of numerous passages and closets, many of both which have been scooped out of the walls, and back stairs, the apartments are extremely convenient, well connected, and at the same time perfectly distinct : his Lordship has made several improvements, which add greatly to the spaciousness and convenience of the apartments in general.

The bed-chambers and dressing-rooms are of a good size and proportion, and several of the lower apartments large and



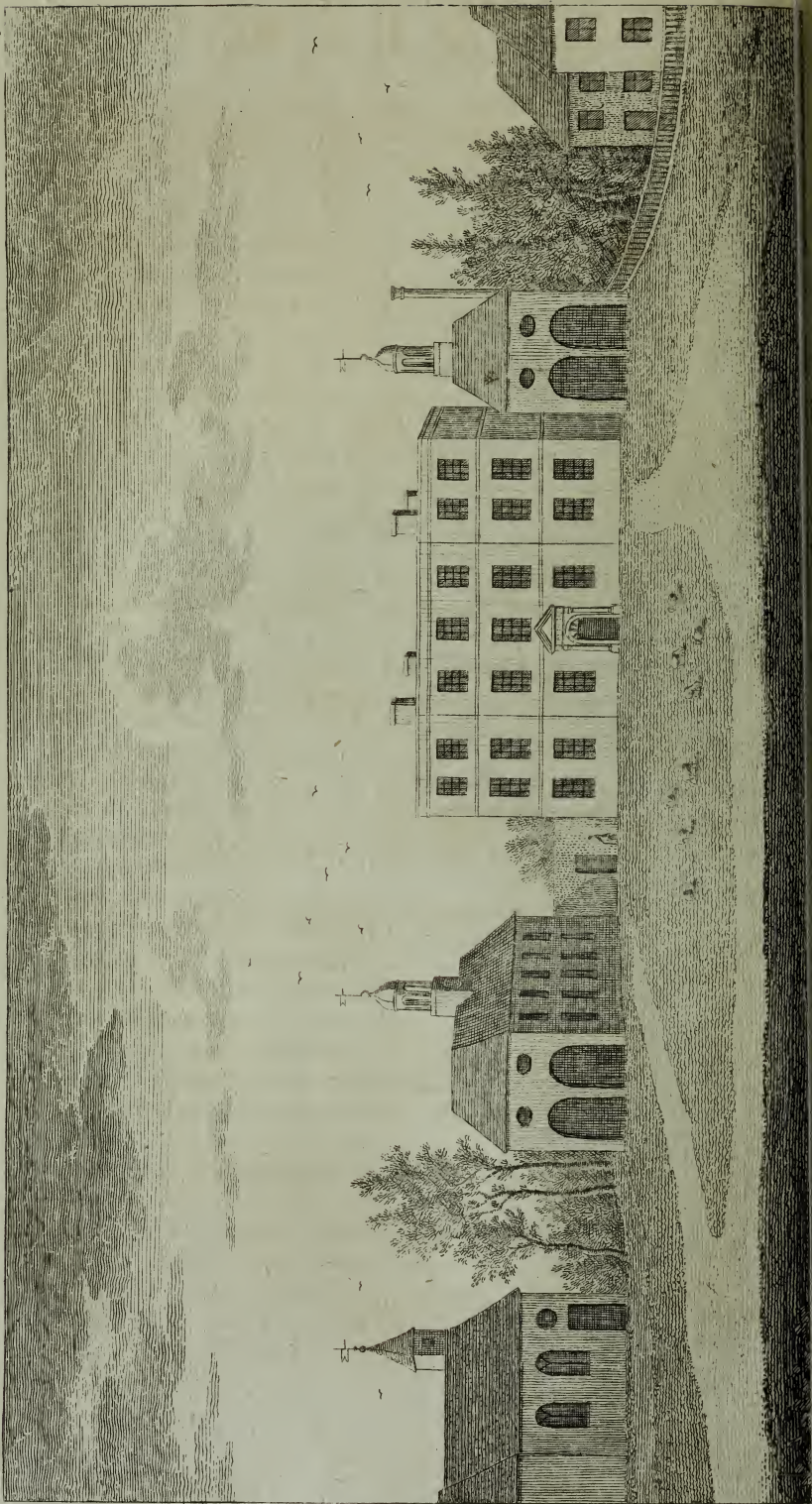
elegantly fitted up. One of the drawing-rooms is thirty feet by twenty ; and the adjoining dining-room fifty-one feet by twenty-one ; the windows of both of plate-glass, and in the smallest and lightest of brass frames. Near the dining-room there is a rendezvous apartment, ninety feet long, thirty-six broad, and thirty-six high ; a proportion that pleases the eye at the very entrance ; it is improved by an addition of thirty feet in length, by a circular tower at one end of it, in the same stile as the rest of the castle ; by which means the south front is greatly improved, and the room receives not only an additional space, but the light of a circular bow window.

The park and ornamented grounds around the castle are disposed with very great taste. The lawns, woods, plantations, objects, are remarkably beautiful.—Entering the lawn from the plantations near the house, the whole sweep has a very fine effect. The dog-kennel, a Gothic ornamented building, is seen on one side rising out of a fine wood, and beautifying the scene much. Upon the hill to the right is a Gothic farm-house, a simple but pleasing design, in very fine situation ; in front, along the valley, several clumps of trees are scattered, and between them his Lordship's farm-house on a rising hill ; a building which greatly ornaments the grounds. This part of the lawn is finely inclosed on three sides with thriving plantations. This leads into the extended part of the lawn, which is, for its extent, as beautiful a one as can any where be seen : the inequality of the ground is remarkably favourable to its beauty ; it consists of fine sweeps of grass, stretching away to the right and left, over hills most elegantly spread with plantations on one side, and presenting to the eye a fine waving uninterrupted surface through a valley, on the other. It loses itself in such a manner among the woods, as to give room for the imagination to play, and picture an extent superior to the reality.—In front, upon a fine rising hill, is situated the farm-yard, with a most elegant Gothic screen in it.

From this hill, you look back on a very fine scene. To the left, the whole is bounded by a most noble range of planted hanging hills, which extend to the woods in front, surrounding the castle to the distant prospect, in a most picturesque manner : the hollow scoops of lawn are peculiarly beautiful : to the right, it has a noble sweep through the valley, with a prodigious extensive prospect over it to Rosebury-







bury-topping, &c. Nothing can be more beautiful than this whole view, which is composed of the most elegant disposition of ground imaginable; the hanging hills spread with wood; the hollow scoops of grass, spacious lawns, and distant prospect upon the whole, fill the eye and please the imagination. Winding up to the right, and moving along the terrace, which is a natural one, but leads through an extensive plantation, the views it commands are very fine. You look down upon the farm, and the hill upon which it stands, which waves through the valley in a most pleasing manner: throwing your eye more in front, you catch a lake breaking upon the view in irregular sheets of water, just over the tops of the lower woods; the effect most truly picturesque. Upon the right, the whole valley is commanded, and the village of Staindrop well situated among inclosures and straggling trees.

Advancing, the prospect varies; a fine sweep of cultivated hill is seen upon the left, and the Gothic farm-house, ornamenting all the surrounding grounds; descending into the vale, you catch the village and church of Staindrop, most picturesquely among the trees. Further down, from among the sloping woods, through which the riding leads, the castle is seen rising most nobly, from a fore ground of wood, in a stile truly magnificent. Crossing this part of the lawn to the lower terrace, you meet with grounds before unseen, which are excellently disposed; the plantations judiciously sketched, and the views pleasing.

The whole range of ground is seen to very great advantage, by riding along the southern plantation: you there command the whole, from the castle on one side to the hills beyond the farm-house on the other; and the sweep of plantations here appears very noble.—Upon the whole, plantations disposed with more taste, are no where to be seen; none which are sketched with more judgement for setting off the natural inequalities of the ground, and managed more artfully for presenting, on a small space of land, a large extent of surface to the eye. Nor can any thing of the kind be more beautiful than the lawn, which spreads over the hills and among the woods, so as to appear in different sweeps of green, indenting in some places the woods, and breaking through them in others. No object in the stile of ornament, can be



more agreeable in itself, or more striking from its situation, than the farm-house, which is seen from most parts of the ground, and always to advantage.

*Coker*, the seat of Mr. Car, is a most romantic situation, and laid out with great judgement. The walks are very extensive, principally along the sides or at the bottom of deep dells, bounded by vast precipices finely wooded, and many parts of the rocks are planted with vines. The river *Were* winds along the hollows, and forms two very fine reaches at the place where you enter these walks. Its waters are very clear, and its bottom a solid rock. The view towards the ruins of *Finchall-abbey* is remarkably great, and the walk beneath the cliffs has a magnificent solemnity, a fit retreat for its monastic inhabitants. This was once called *The Desert*, and was the rude scene of the austerities of St. Godric, who carried them to the most senseless extravagance. A sober mind may even at present be affected with horror at the prospect from the summits of the cliffs into a darksome and stupendous chasm, rendered still more tremendous by the roaring of its waters over its distant bottom.

*Lumley Castle*, belonging to the Earl of Scarborough, is pleasantly seated in a fine park, near the east bank of the river *Were*. It is a large square building, with towers at each corner, having a large court-yard in the middle. It contains a great number of spacious antique as well as modern built rooms, and the paintings are curious and valuable.

Among the other seats in this county are also the following:—The Earl of Carlisle's, at *Stanhope*; *Ravensthorpe Castle*, near Durham, the seat of Lord *Ravensthorpe*; Lord *Falconberg's*, at *Henknowle*; Sir John Eden's, at *West Auckland*; Sir Ralph Conyers's, at *Harden*; and *Bishop's Auckland*, one of the seats of the Bishop of Durham.

The cataracts of the river *Tees* are extremely well worth viewing. After the river has slept in a long and peaceful canal, it pours its streams down continued precipices, and falls for several hundred yards, where it is tossed from rock to rock, and making a prodigious noise, hurries forward in sheets

sheets of foam. The margin of the river is rocky, the hills surrounding are barren and desolate, and nature seems here, by her outward garb, in such poverty, as if she was the outcast of an offended Deity; from whence the affrighted floods fly as from the object of so tremendous an interdict; yet in her lap this haggard daughter of the earth bears immense and inexhaustible treasure: the value of the lead mines is not to be estimated.—Lower down is another fall of the river Tees, but very different in its aspect. The vale in many parts shows pretty enclosures; the hills become green, instead of russet, and the rocks are capped with turf. In short, this scene is as beautiful as the other is horrible.

*Nesham*, a village upon the river Tees, south-east of Darlington, and in the road from London to Durham, is remarkable for a ford over the river, where the bishop, at his first coming to take possession of the see, is met by the country gentlemen, and where the lord of the manor of Sockburn, a village south-east of Nesham, upon the same river, advances into the middle of the stream, and presents him with a falchion, as an emblem of his temporal power, which he returns him again, and then proceeds on his way.

*Shields*, in this county, is of considerable note for its salt works, there being in this place above two hundred pans for boiling the sea water into salt, which are said to require one hundred thousand chaldrons of coals every year. The salt made here supplies London, all the intermediate country, and every place that is supplied with that commodity by the navigation of the river Thames.

At *Oxenhall*, a hamlet between Darlington and the Tees, are three large deep pits full of water, called *Hell Kettles*, and by the common people thought to have no bottom. Some suppose these pits to have been sunk by an earthquake, because from an ancient book entitled *The Chronicle of Tinmouth*, it appears that on Christmas day, in the year 1179, the earth at this place rose to a great height above the level, in which state it continued till the evening, and then sinking down with an horrid noise, was swallowed up, and left a pit full of water, which has continued ever since. The people here have

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an opinion that these pits communicate with the river Tees; and with each other, by subterraneous passages. This opinion Mr. Camden seems to have adopted; and, as a proof of the fact, he relates, that Cuthbert Tostall, bishop of Durham, having put a goose, which he marked for the purpose, into one of these wells, found it again in the river Tees. This story, however, is not now credited; and by a later account of the pits, it appears, that the depth of the deepest is not above thirty yards. The most probable opinion seems to be, that they are old coal pits, rendered useless by the raising of water in them, which is always cold, though Mr. Camden says it is hot. It is remarkable that these pits are always full to the brim, which is upon the same level with the river Tees; there seems therefore to be good reason to believe that the water in the pits is supplied from the river, whether the passage of communication would permit a goose to go through or not; nor does the communication make it necessary that the pits should be deeper than they are.

*Lanchester*, a village standing north-west of Durham, upon the Roman highway called *Watling-street*, is supposed by Mr. Camden to be the Roman Longovicum, several inscriptions having been dug up here which favour that opinion, and it appearing by many ruins to have been fortified with a strong thick wall, and adorned with temples, palaces, and other public buildings.

*Binchester*, a village upon the river Were, south-west of the city of Durham, is supposed to have been the Vinovium of Antoninus, and the Binovium of Ptolemy. Here are still visible the ruins of walls and castles. A variety of seals, urns, and other antiquities, have been dug up in this place, particularly some Roman coins called *Binchester Pennies*, and two altars.

At *Winston*, a village upon the river Tees, about four miles east of Barnard's Castle, are seen the remains of a Roman highway, which may be traced from Binchester to Cattarick, a village near Richmond, a considerable borough town in Yorkshire.

*Chester*

*Chester in the Street*, which is a small village near Durham, in the way to Berwick, is of great antiquity, and is supposed to have been a Roman station.

At *Ebchester*, a village lying north-west of Chester in the Street, were discovered some years ago, the traces of a Roman station, about two hundred yards square, with large suburbs, where a variety of ancient remains have been dug up.





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## E S S E X.

**T**HIS county is bounded by Suffolk and Cambridgeshire on the north; by the German ocean on the east; by the river Thames, which separates it from the county of Kent, on the south; and by the counties of Middlesex and Hertford on the west. It is about fifty miles in length, thirty-five in breadth, and one hundred and forty in circumference; and contains twenty hundreds, twenty-two market-towns, four hundred and fifteen parishes, and one million two hundred and forty thousand acres. It abounds with corn, cattle, and wild fowl; and the north parts of it, especially about Saffron Walden, produce great quantities of saffron. Abundance of oxen and sheep are fed in the marshes near the Thames, and sent to the markets of London. The inhabitants of this county have plenty of fish of all sorts from the sea and rivers; and by the sea side are decoys, which in the winter season produce great profit to their owners. Towards the sea the air of this county is aguish, though it is more so in regard to strangers than to the natives. The principal manufactures of this county are cloths and stuffs, but particularly bays and says, of which, about half a century ago, such quantities were exported to Spain and the Spanish colonies in America, to clothe the nuns and friars, that there has often been a return from London of thirty thousand pounds a week, in ready money only, to Colchester and a few small towns round it.

The principal rivers in this county are the Stour, the Lea, the Coln, the Blackwater, and the Chelmer. The Stour rises in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-east separates it from Suffolk, and falls into the German Ocean at Harwich. The Lea rises in the north-west part of the county, runs almost directly south, and separating Essex from the counties of Hertford and Middlesex, falls into the Thames at Blackwall.—The Coln rises also in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-west to Halsted, runs parallel to the

the river Stour, and passes by Colchester, where, forming an angle, it runs south-south-east, and falls into the German Ocean, about seven or eight miles south-east from that town.—The Blackwater rises also in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-east passes by Braintree, and falls into the Chelmer at Malden.—The Chelmer rises within two or three miles of the source of the river Blackwater, and running nearly parallel to it, passes to Chelmsford, where, forming an angle, it runs directly east, and receiving the Blackwater, falls into the German Ocean near Malden.

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## MARKET TOWNS.

CHELMSFORD is a considerable town, which is situated at the confluence of two rivers, the Chelmer and the Cann, from the former of which it derived its name. It is the county town, and is distant from London twenty-nine miles. The town consists but of four streets, but is regular and well built. The entrance to it from the London road is over an old stone bridge, built by Maurice, Bishop of London, in the reign of Henry the First. As soon as this is passed over, a spacious street presents itself to the view of the traveller, at the upper end of which, upon a little ascent, stands the shire-house. Each street lies with an easy descent towards the centre, and is washed with a current of clear water. The Chelmer and the Cann form here an angle, along which lie many pleasure gardens, and some of them are agreeably laid out.

In an open space, nearly a square, adjoining to the shire-house, stands a conduit. It is of a quadrangular form, about fifteen feet high, built with stone and brick: it has four pipes, one on each side, from which the purest water is perpetually flowing. The following inscription is on the side that fronts the part from whence the spring rises: “ This conduit  
 “ in one minute runs one hogshead and a half, and four gallons  
 “ and a half. In one day 2262 hogsheads and 54 gallons.  
 “ In one month 63,360 hogsheads. And in one year 825,942  
 “ hogsheads and 54 gallons.”

The assizes, general quarter sessions, and other county courts, are held at Chelmsford; and here likewise are held the elections for the knights of the shire; and here stands the county

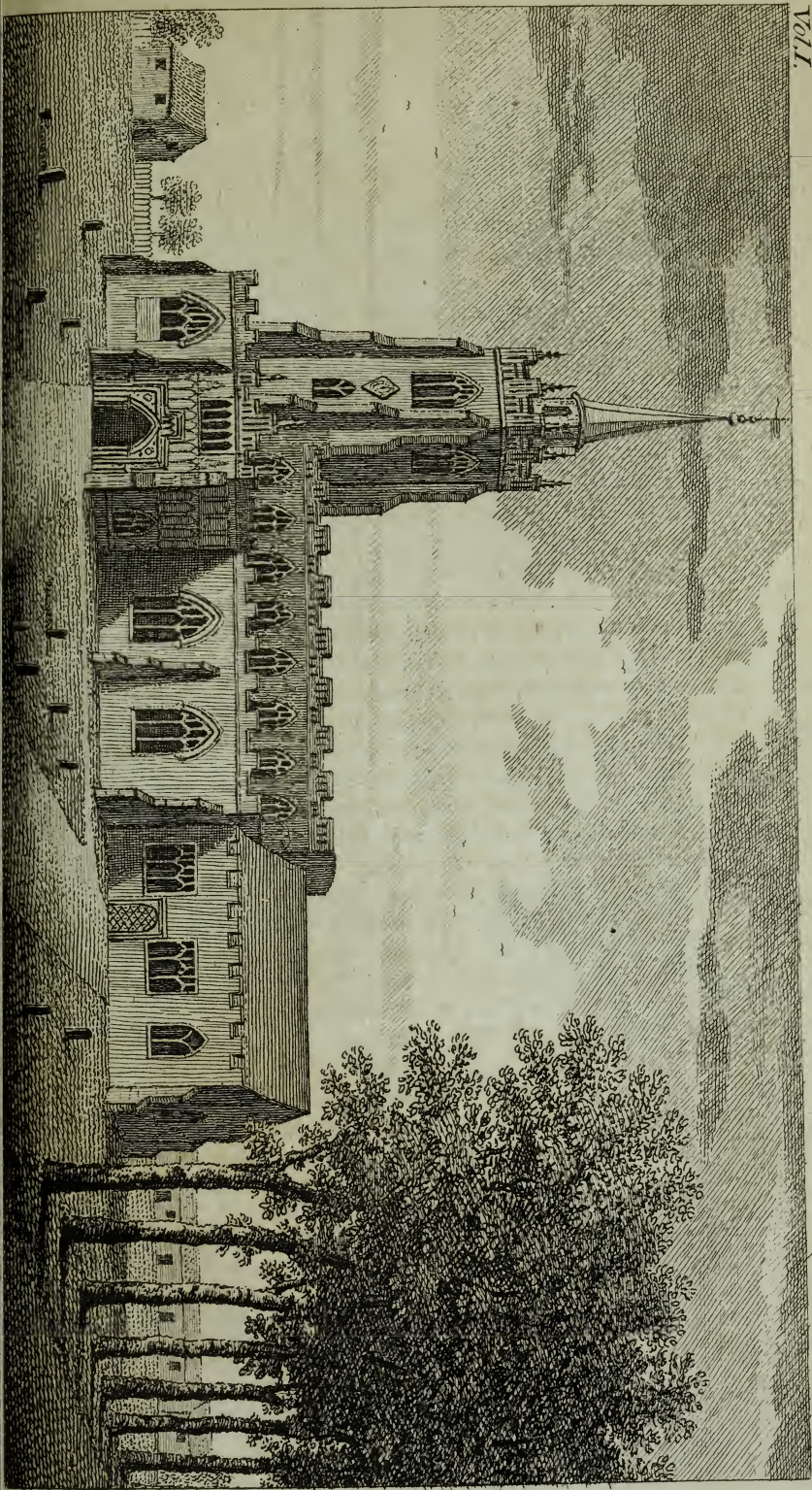


gaol. The great road from London to Colchester, to Harwich, to Suffolk, and many parts of Norfolk, lies through this town, so that it is furnished with several good inns. Adjoining to the shire-house is a good market-place, where a market is held every Friday, supplied with corn, meat, fish, fowls, &c. The church is an handsome ancient structure, situated at the end of the town. There are several handsome monuments in it erected in memory of the Mildmay family, one in particular for Benjamin Mildmay, Earl of Fitz-Walter.—There is a good free-school in this town, which was founded by King Edward the Sixth, besides two other charity-schools.

COLCHESTER is a very ancient town, in the north-east part of the county, at the distance of about fifty-one miles from London. It stands upon the north side of a fine eminence, rising gradually from the river Colne, which waters the north and east sides. It is the most considerable town in the county, and is governed by a mayor, high-steward, recorder, eleven aldermen, eighteen common-councilmen, and other corporation officers. It was last incorporated by King William the Third, and is a liberty of itself, having four wards and sixteen parishes, eight of which are within the walls, and eight without. It is a populous place, and is about three miles in circumference: the streets are spacious, and though not in general remarkably well built, yet there are a great many good houses in it, besides the guild-hall, adjoining to which is the town-gaol, and a hall called *Dutch-baize-hall*, belonging to a corporation for the support of the baize and say manufactures, both of which are fine buildings. Here are ten parish churches, and three meeting-houses, of which one is for the Quakers. Here are also two charity-schools, one for seventy boys, and the other for fifty boys and girls, a work-house, and two free grammar-schools; and there are three bridges over the river Colne, which was made navigable by act of parliament for small craft up to a long street next the water side, called *The Hithe*, where there is a quay, and for ships of large burthen, to a place called *The Wyvenhoe*, within three miles of the town, where there is a custom-house.

Colchester had formerly the greatest manufactory of baize and says of any place in England; but that trade has of late years considerably declined here. This place is also remarkable for candying eringo roots, but much more for its oysters,  
for









for which it is particularly famous. They are taken near the mouth of the Colne, upon sands called *The Spitts*, and are carried up to the Wyvenhoe, where they are laid in beds or pits on the shore to feed; after they have continued in these pits some time, they are barrellled and brought to Colchester, from whence they are sent in great quantities to London and other places. Such shoals of sprats are caught here, and consumed by the woollen manufacturers, that the common name for this fish in Essex is *The Weavers Beef of Colchester*.

This town has sent members to parliament from the twenty-third year of the reign of Edward the First to the present time; and upwards of fifteen hundred persons are entitled to votes here. There are three market days in every week in this town, viz. on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; and here are five fairs held, one on the second Tuesday in April, another on the 5th of July, another on the 23d of July, another on the 2d of August, and the last on the 20th of October.

Colchester is supposed by some to be the ancient Camulodunum; and it has been observed that there are a greater quantity of Roman remains here than in any other part of Britain; vast quantities of Roman bricks and tiles being to be seen incorporated, and which indeed are the principal ingredients in all the most ancient edifices, the town-wall, the castle, and the churches being half built with them. The Suppellex Romana of all kinds still abounds, scarcely any places being dug up without discovering urns, vases, and poterie, of all sorts, or at least fragments, among which is a great deal of the fine glazed and red ware, resembling the most beautiful of that which comes from China. Lamps, rings, intaglias, styles, chains, and sepulchral urns, with the ashes therein are likewise frequently found; a remarkable urn in particular was taken up a few years ago; it contained twenty gallons, having in it another of two gallons, with the ashes, as is supposed, of a Roman lady, because there were also with it two bottles of clay for incense, two clay lamps, one metal vessel for ointment, and a speculum of polished metal, anciently used for a looking-glass. And there are here a great number of Mosaic or tessellated pavements, about three feet under ground, having black, white, red, and yellow tesserae, and looking like a beautiful carpet. Some of these are preserved, being enclosed and covered. But as to Roman coins and medals, it is said that even bushels have been found in and about this town, and amongst



them many gold ones.—The walls of this town are still standing, but very much decayed in some places, particularly on the north side. Where the wall remains perfect, it is faced either with Roman brick, or square stones, about seven or eight inches in diameter.

Colchester Castle stands on the north side of what is called the High-street, and is a square of about two hundred and twenty-four yards in circumference on the outside. The whole building is a mixture of stone and Roman bricks; but most of the Roman bricks are in broken pieces, taken from the ruins of more ancient edifices formerly standing in the town. The corners of the walls, and sides of the doors and windows, are of free stone.

In 1631, Dr. Harsnet, Archbishop of York, gave to the town of Colchester all his library of books, and they are deposited in the castle. Several additions have since been made to this library; and a very capital addition of valuable books would have been made to it by the late Bishop Compton; but the love of learning was then so prevalent at Colchester, that the Bishop's benefaction was neglected, *in order to save the expence of carriage!*

HARWICH stands at the distance of seventy-two miles from London, and is situated on a cliff or point of land, at the north-east corner of the county of Essex. It is bounded on the east by the sea, and on the north by the mouth of the river Stour, and the haven of Orwell. The washing and undermining of the tides, and the falling of large pieces of the cliff have made this point a peninsula, and it is apprehended, in a course of years, will make it quite an island. The town is not large, but well built, and populous. It was formerly walled round, and had four gates; it had also a castle, and an admiralty house. It was first made a borough by King Edward the Second, and was afterwards incorporated by King James the First. Between this town and a high hill called *Beacon Hill*, not far distant, there is a cliff consisting of a kind of clay, parts of which are continually falling down into a petrifying water at the bottom, which they imbibe, and being afterwards taken out and dried, they become an impenetrable and durable stone, and with this stone the town is paved.

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The harbour is very safe, and so spacious, that an hundred sail of men of war, with their tenders, besides three or four hundred sail of colliers, have sometimes been seen here at the same time. The mouth of the harbour at high water, is near three miles wide, but the channel, by which alone the ships can come into the harbour, is deep and narrow, and lies on the Suffolk side ; so that all the ships that come in or go out are commanded by a strong fort, called *Landguard Fort*, which was built by King James the First, on a point of land, so surrounded by the sea at high water, that it looks like an island, lying about a mile from the shore. The town was formerly fortified on the land side, but in the reign of King Charles the First the fortifications were demolished.—There is a Guildhall, and a tolerable good exchange at Harwich ; and as it is a sea-port, here is a custom-house, called *The King's House*, with a collector, comptroller, land-surveyor, tide-surveyor, two land-waiters, and four tide-waiters.

For the guidance of vessels into the harbour, in a room over the chief gate there is a light kept every night with a coal-fire, to which answers a light-house on the town-green below the cliff, with lamps supplied with oil. By means of them ships are conducted clear of a sand called *The Andrews*, into the rolling grounds, where there is good anchorage.

The shortest and safest passage between England and Holland being from this port, it brings a considerable number of travellers this way, especially in time of war ; for whose conveniency, and the carrying of the mails, there are four packet-boats, and in war time two Dover packet-boats. King William, and King George the First and Second, usually embarked and landed at this place, in their journeys to and from Holland and Hanover.

Here is a good yard for building ships, with store-houses, cranes, launches, and other necessities.—The town-hall and gaol were lately pulled down, and re-built with brick ; and the private buildings, and pavement of the streets, are of late years much improved.

The fishery here is so much increased of late years, that there are now upwards of sixty fishing sloops belonging to this town, of about fifty tons burthen. The copperas works, which were formerly carried on here, have been dropped for some years, and very little copperas is now picked up here ;  
neither



neither are there many lobsters taken on the shore, as formerly. But a number of fishing sloops from hence are employed to fetch lobsters from Norway to London, and other markets, each of them bringing on an average about twelve or fourteen thousand on a single voyage, and most of them making two voyages from hence between February and July. As many, or rather a larger number of vessels, sail every winter from hence to the Dogger Bank, and there fish for Dogger cods, which are very large and much esteemed. This fishery, 'till within these few years, was not much understood by our fishermen; but they are now become so expert therein, that hopes are entertained of establishing the turbot-trade here likewise, which will be a great saving to the nation, as the Dutch carry a great quantity of ready specie from the London markets every season, for that kind of fish.

Part of a Roman castra, or camp, still remains at Harwich; and here and there are found mutilated parts of a large stone pavement, which are supposed to be sufficient proofs of its having been a Roman military way; or, in the Saxon stile, a *Stane-street*. Several coins have been found here; and a tessellated pavement was also discovered, and a wall pulled down about twenty years ago, built entirely of Roman materials.—At a Roman castle called by Camden, *Walton*, otherwife *Felixstow-Castle*, many fragments of urns, and other antiquities, have been dug up. An elephant's tooth was likewise found near the remains of this castle; and it is said that more of them have been found in Harwich cliff, which were probably buried there by the Romans. Dion Cassius says, that elephants were brought into Britain by Claudius, who landed his army in Kent, and crossed the Thames with it into Essex, where he conquered the natives. This happened in the year 43: So that these teeth are supposed to have lain in the earth one thousand seven hundred years.

Harwich church is only a chapel of ease to the mother church at Dover-court. It was founded by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk.—Harwich sends two members to parliament.—Here are two fairs held, one on the feast of St. Philip and St. James, and the other on the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist.

*Dover-Court* is a mile distant from Harwich. In this parish grow strong knotted and crooked elms, famous for their  
several

several uses in husbandry, which are said to be very durable, and to wear like iron. Here are two fairs held, one on the 1st of May, and another on the 18th of October.

SAFFRON WALDEN is a large and populous town, seven miles from Thaxted, and forty-three from London. The neighbouring fields were formerly chiefly appropriated to the cultivation of saffron, from which circumstance it derived part of its name; but that plant is now chiefly cultivated more westward, in and about the confines of Cambridgeshire. Saffron is said to have been first brought into Essex in the reign of King Edward the Third; and Essex and Cambridgeshire saffron is accounted the best in the world. There is a great deal of the malting-business carried on at Saffron-Walden: Here is likewise a manufacture for bolting cloths, and for checks and fustains. Many of the poor are employed in the making of sacks, and in spinning of fine yarn for the manufactories in Norwich. Many of the inhabitants are dissenters, who have a meeting-house for the Independents, another for the Baptists, and a third for the Quakers. It has a large market weekly on Saturday, and two fairs annually; one on the Sunday in Mid-Lent, for horses, &c. and the other on the first of November, for cows, &c.

The church is an ancient and stately structure, situated nearly in the centre of the town. On the south-side of the chancel are steps which lead to a vault, the burial place of the Suffolk family. The remains of six Earls of Suffolk are deposited here, and of others of the same noble family. And under the south arch of the chancel is an elegant altar monument, erected to the memory of Lord Audley, High Chancellor of England, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth.

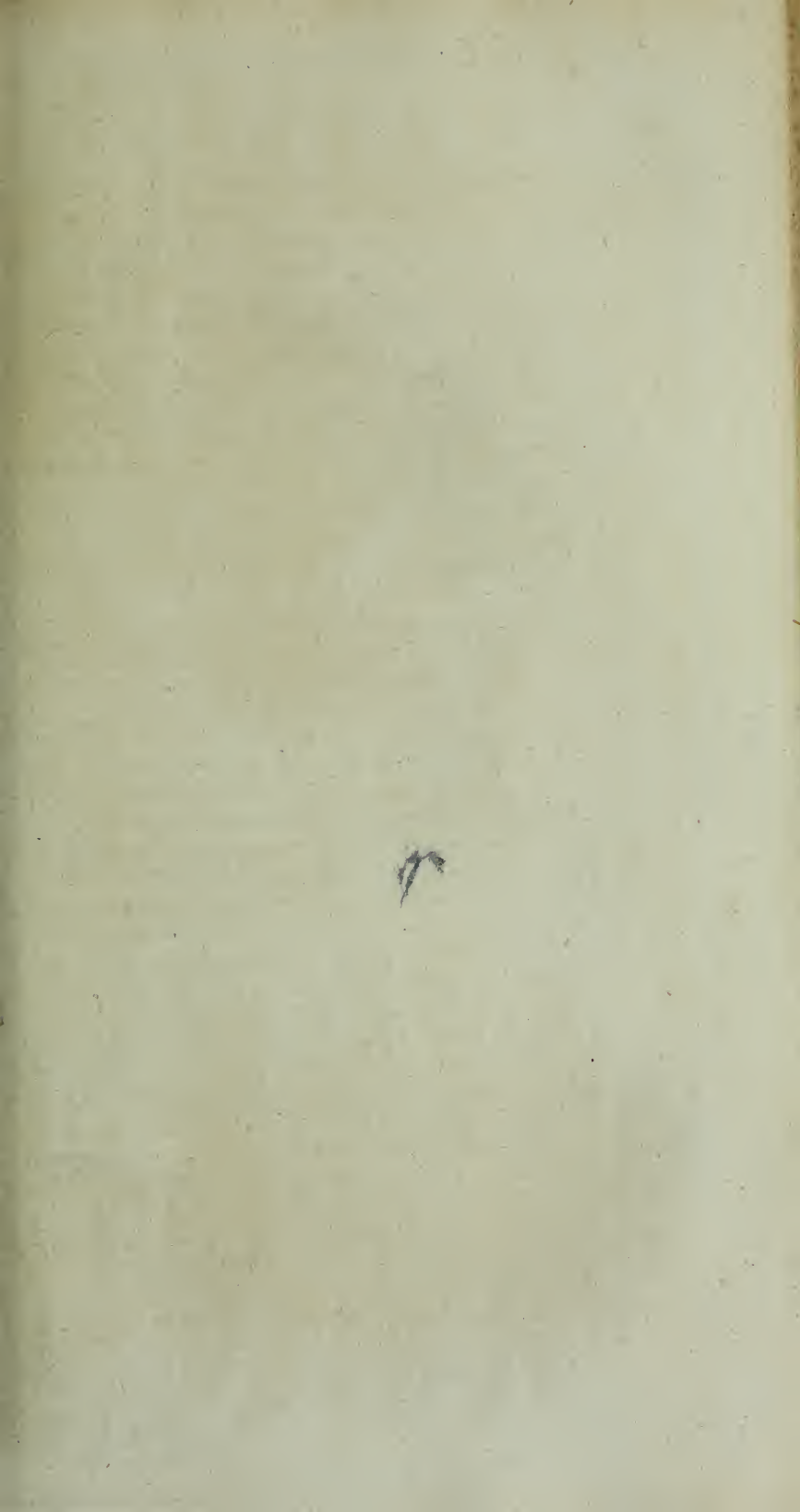
There was a priory founded here in 1136, by Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex; and in the year 1190 it was converted into an abbey. The site of it was near the great pond by the bowling-green at Saffron-Walden, where foundations and bones have been dug up.

WALTHAM-ABBEY, or WALTHAM HOLY-CROSS, is twelve miles from London, and is situated on the east side of the river Lea, which here dividing, incloses some islands with fine meadows, and parts Essex from Hertfordshire, and this place

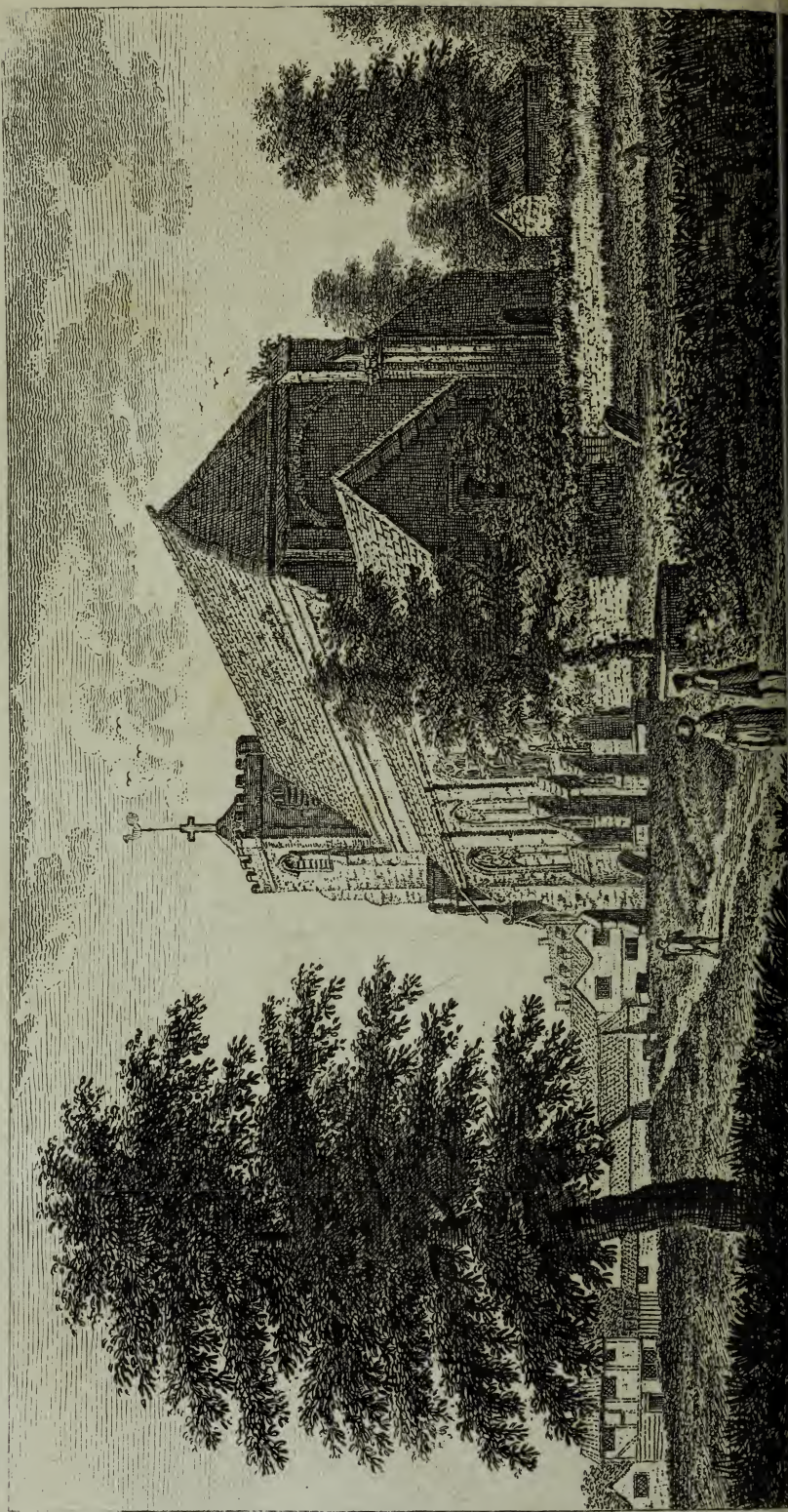


place from Waltham Cross, or West Waltham. The first mention which is made of this place by ancient writers, is about the latter times of the Saxons ; when it appears that Tovi, a man of great wealth and authority, standard-bearer to King Canute, induced by the abundance of deer, built a number of houses here, and peopled them with sixty-six inhabitants. King Edward the Confessor, into whose hands it afterwards came, bestowed this place upon his brother-in-law Harold, son to Earl Godwin, who built an abbey here, from whence the place derives its present name. Tovi had begun a church here for two priests, and committed to their keeping a miraculous cross, said to have been discovered in a vision to a carpenter far westward, and brought hither in a manner unknown : which was reported to work many wonders. On account of that cross, this place is said to have obtained the name of *Holy Cross*.

After Harold became possessed of it, in the year 1062, he founded here a college for a dean, and eleven secular canons, in memory of King Edward, his Queen Edith, his father and mother, and all his other relations ; and endowed it with West Waltham, and sixteen other manors. Many other very considerable grants were afterwards made to this monastery, and it was also endowed with very great and special privileges and immunities. However, it appears that the foundation for a dean and canons was of no longer continuance than from the year 1062 to 1177. For the court of Rome having formed the design of introducing into all convents *monks* instead of *seculars*, under pretence that the latter lived more irreligiously and carnally than the others, King Henry the Second converted this college into a monastery for an abbot, and sixteen monks of the order of St. Augustine. His principal motive for so doing, appears to have been the saving his money ; for, in order to pacify the Pope, having vowed to erect an abbey for canons regular, to the honour of God and St. Thomas a Becket, for the expiation of his sins, it was much cheaper for him to make a small change in this, than to erect a new one. However, from this time till the dissolution of monasteries, it continued an abbey for Austin monks. Its abbots, who were mitred, and had the twentieth place in parliament, lived in a most splendid but hospitable manner ; and were frequently visited by King Henry the Third when he was reduced, and obliged to carry his family  
about







about for a dinner. The abbey was at the dissolution bestowed by King Henry the Eighth on Sir Anthony Denny, one of his favourites, and gentleman of his bedchamber; but the manor of Waltham is at present in the possession of Sir William Wake, Bart.

This abbey was a curious, large, and antique structure; the whole front a few years ago was entirely rebuilt with brick and stone, after a modern and beautiful form by Charles Wake Jones, Esq. and on each side front it had a wing. The hall was exceedingly handsome, being remarkable for its curious wainscoting and excellent paintings. In length it measured sixteen yards and half, in breadth eight yards and half, and in height nine yards and a foot. It was encompassed with many fertile pastures, and pleasant meads and marshes. The spacious garden belonging to it was surrounded by a beautiful canal: the garden, which was very delightful, contained a variety of plants and fruits, fine groves and walks; and, in short, every thing that was necessary to render it agreeable. But the fine tulip-tree that is here must not be forgotten, it being esteemed the largest that ever was seen. This tree is still left, and is encompassed by a paling. But the house was pulled down in 1770, and the gardens are now let to a gardener.

Waltham abbey-church is a Gothic edifice, rather large than neat, firm than fair, and very dark. The great pillars are wreathed with indentings, which are said to have been formerly filled up with brass. To the south side of the church adjoins a chapel (now converted into a school), and formerly called *Our Lady's*, because there was founded in it a chantry of that name; and under it is a very fair arched charnel-house. The whole was formerly well leaded, but is now tiled. In the middle stood the tower, cathedral-wise. Part of it falling down soon after the surrender of the abbey, probably in pulling down the chancel and choir, a wall was run up at the east end of the church; and a handsome tower was erected at the west end, eighty-six feet in height from the foundation to the battlements. This was begun in the year 1558, at the charge of the parishioners; and three years were employed in the building it. Every year's work is discernable by the difference in the stones; and the parish was obliged, in order to raise money to complete the building, to sell their bells, which before hung in a wooden frame in the church-



yard ; so that Waltham, which had formerly bells without a steeple, had for some time a steeple without bells. There are now six bells.

The founder, King Harold, was buried in the church, with his two brothers, Girth and Leofwine. Since the demolition of the chancel, or of a chapel thereto adjoining, the place of his sepulchre is within the garden of the lord of the manor. Over his grave lay a grey marble stone, with a cross carved upon it, and a Latin epitaph, which has been thus translated :

“ A fierce foe thee slew ; thou a King, he a King in view :  
 “ Both peers, both peerless ; both fear’d, and both fearless :  
 “ That sad day was mixt by Firmin and Calixt ;  
 “ Th’ one help’d thee to vanquish, t’other made thee to languish.  
 “ Both now for thee pray, and thy requiem say ;  
 “ So let good men all to God for thee call.”

The last account we have of this tomb-stone, is, that it was at Waltham-mill, and seen there by Dr. Uvedell, of Enfield. Towards the end of Queen Elizabeth’s reign, King Harold’s coffin was discovered by one Tomkins, gardener to Sir Edward Dinny, being of a hard stone, (and covered with another) wherein the bones lay in proper order, without any kind of dirt, but upon the touch mouldered into dust.

A decent meeting-house was erected here in 1729, for Protestant Dissenters. There are also here four alms-houses, founded for four widows by Mr. Green, purveyor to King James the First, with an orchard and a barn adjoining, the rent of which is payable to the said widows. Upon the alms-houses is the following inscription, the sentiments of which deserve to be attended to, whatever may be thought of the poetry.

“ Birth is a pain, life, labour, care, toil, thrall ;  
 “ In old age strength fails ; lastly, death ends all.  
 “ Whilst strong life last, let virtuous deeds be shown ;  
 “ Fruit of such trees are thereby hardly seen or known.  
 “ To have reward with lasting joys, for ay  
 “ When vicious actions fall to ends decay.  
 “ Of wealth o’erplus, land, money, stock, or store,  
 “ In life that will relieve aged, needy, poor,  
 “ Good deeds defer not till the fun’ral rite be past ;  
 “ In life time what’s done, is made more sure, firm, fast ;  
 “ So ever after it shall be known and seen  
 “ The leaf and fruit shall ever spring fresh and green. 1626.”

In the eastern extremity of the parish, partly in it, and partly in that of Epping, by the side of Copped Hall Park, is a fine old camp, inclosing eleven acres, two roods, and twenty perches, commonly called *Amber's Bank*. The new road from Debdon Green to Epping goes through it. Mr. Morant is of opinion, that the decisive battle between Boadicea and the Romans was fought hereabouts.

*Harold's Park*, so named from Earl Harold, part of whose demesnes it was, and given by him to Waltham Abbey, is about three miles north-east of the church.

The town of Waltham Abbey is built mostly of timber; it is very irregular and inconvenient, and makes but a mean appearance; the chief house in it is that of James Barwick, Esq. The market-place is small, and the market, which is held on Tuesdays, is well provided with grain, and noted for fine veal, pork, and pigs. Here are two fairs annually; one on the 14th of May, and the other on September 25, 26; which last was formerly held for seven days.

On one side of this town are large and beautiful meadows, some of which are used in common to the town. These meadows in the time of King Alfred, in the year 876, laid under water, which great water was then navigable. That truly great King (who really was, what some later Kings have only pretended to be, the father of his people) divided the grand streams of the river Lea into several rivulets, by which means some Danish ships which lay here for security, became water-bound, and their mariners were obliged to shift for themselves over-land; which proved a great check to the ravages of the Danes.

A new navigable river hath lately been cut here. It takes its rise at a place called *Ives's Ferry*, in Hertfordshire, where it is supplied from the old river Lea, and extends through part of the town of Waltham Abbey, Endfield, Edmonton, and Hackney-Marshes, Bromley, Limehouse, and Dick-Shore, emptying itself into the Thames. The chief utility of which is, that the navigation to Waltham Abbey is shortened about ten miles, and the expensive delay of the craft in the Thames by easterly winds, is in a great measure avoided. These rivers afford plenty of fish, some salmon-trout, eels, carp, tench, pike, perch, craw-fish, and many others.

Near the town, on one of these rivers, are several curious gun-powder-mills, upon a new construction, worked by  
2 G 2 water,



water, the old ones having been worked by horses. These are reckoned the most compleat in England, and will make near an hundred barrels weekly for the service of government, each barrel containing one hundred weight. They are now the property of Boucher Walton, Esq.

On the north side of the town callico-printing is carried on with great spirit. The wool-combing business is also carried on here still ; but not in so extensive a manner as it was formerly.

The learned Dr. Joseph Hall, afterwards bishop of Exeter and Norwich, was minister of this parish ; as also Dr. Thomas Fuller, author of *The Church History of Britain*, *The Worthies of England*, &c. and who was so famous for the extraordinary strength of his memory.

EPHING lies east-north-east of Waltham Abbey, and is seventeen miles from London. It is divided into two parts, namely, *Upland*, where the church is situated ; and *Townside*, where the town stands. It consists chiefly of inns and public-houses, the shops being few in number, just sufficient to supply the town and neighbourhood with common necessities. It is near a mile in length, extending almost due east and west. A market is held here weekly on Fridays, and its principal commodities are fowls and butter, it being particularly famous for the latter, much of which is carried from hence to London. The buildings in the town are but indifferent ; and here is a church and a brick chapel, the latter in a miserable condition, at which and the church, divine service is performed alternately. Here is a Dissenting meeting-house, and also a Quaker's meeting. The church stands pleasantly on a rising ground, is of one pace with the chancel, and of an uncommon length. It has of late been repaired and beautified, and is extremely neat.

CHEPING ONGAR is a small town, situated on the river Roding, eight miles from Epping, and twenty-one from London. It consists chiefly of one street of pretty good houses, but has been a market town for many years, on which account here are some good inns. The market is kept weekly on Saturdays. The traffic of this town, except on market-days, is but trifling, and at those times is not very considerable. Here are two fairs annually, the one on Easter-Tuesday, the

the other the day after the feast of St. Michael, both of which fairs are for toys and hiring of servants.

This place in ancient records was called *Ongar ad Castrum*, from a castle built here by Richard de Lucy, who was intrusted with the office of lieutenant of the kingdom in the absence of King Henry the Second in Normandy.\*. This castle was situated on the top of an artificial hill, and surrounded by a large moat, which, with several other moats, composed the fortification; but the castle growing ruinous, was taken down in Queen Elizabeth's reign, and an handsome brick edifice erected in its room. But this building was demolished by Edward Alexander, Esq. who in 1744 erected, instead of it, a large handsome summer-house, embattled. It stands at a small distance north east from the church, is surrounded by a deep and wide mote, and ascended by a steep winding walk, arched over most of the way with trees, shrubs, &c. The room is roofed by a beautiful dome leaded, the top of which is ascended by a pair of steps, and over the embattlement the spectator is presented with a beautiful prospect on all sides.

This place is supposed to have been of some note before the Saxons were masters here. The church is built partly of Roman brick; and several Roman foundations have been discovered in this parish, particularly in the church and churchyard.

BRENTWOOD, or BURNTWOOD is a post-town, eighteen miles from London. It is pleasantly situated upon a hill, affords a pleasing prospect to the inhabitants, and of late is greatly improved in its buildings. As it is on the high road from London to Harwich, it is a great thoroughfare, and has some good inns in it. One of these, the Crown Inn, deserves to be distinguished for its antiquity. Mr. Simmonds, in his Collections, says, he was informed by the matter, who had writings in his possession to prove it, that it had been an inn for three hundred years with this sign; that a family named Salmon held it for two hundred years, and that there had been eighty-nine owners, amongst which were an Earl of Oxford, and an Earl of Essex.

Here

\* This Richard de Lucy was also sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1156, and constituted Justice of England in 1162. The priory of Lesnes in Kent was of his founding, where he entered himself a canon regular, and died there in 1179.



Here is a good market weekly on Thursdays, and two fairs yearly for cattle and horses, one on the 18th of July, and the other on the 15th of October. Here is a grammar-school, which was founded in 1557, by Sir Anthony Brown, in which all boys of this parish, or any other parish within three miles of the school-house, are taught grammar learning gratis. Sir Anthony also founded five alms-houses for five single poor persons, three men and two women.

A chapel was founded at Brentwood about the year 1221, which was dedicated to Thomas a Becket; and the perquisites of the chaplain chiefly arose from travellers upon the road, and such as came out of devotion to *Saint Thomas*, as that ambitious and turbulent priest was stiled in an age of ignorance and superstition. From hence it arose, that a gate in this parish, in the way from Ongar, still retains the name of *Pilgrim's Hatch*. Divine service is now kept up in this chapel for the conveniency of the inhabitants of Brentwood, the parish church of South Weald, to which Brentwood belongs, being near two miles distance.

RUMFORD is six miles from Brentwood, and twelve from London, and is governed by a bailiff and wardens, who are by patent impowered to hold a weekly court for the trial of treasons, felonies, debts, &c. and to execute offenders. It is pretty large, and consists chiefly of one street, near half a mile in length, at the upper part of which is held a market every Tuesday for live calves; every Wednesday a general market; and in the winter season, on Monday, a market for live hogs. Here is a fair annually upon Midsummer Day, for cattle and horses. About the middle of the town stands a good market-house and a town-hall. This is a post-town, and the greatest thoroughfare in the county. Here is a chapel, which stands nearly in the centre of the town, and is a spacious stone building. In Rumford-street, near the turnpike, is a charity school, which was erected by subscription in 1710. It is a neat brick building, in which forty boys and twenty girls are educated.

BARKING is the nearest market-town in this county to London, from which it is only nine miles distance, and seven from Rumford. The town is of considerable extent, and chiefly inhabited by fishermen, whose boats, called smacks, lie  
at

at the mouth of the river Thames, from whence their fish is sent up to Billingsgate. The market is held on Saturdays; and a fair is held here annually on the 22d of October, for horses. It was to this place that King William the Conqueror retired, soon after his coronation, till he had erected forts in London to awe the inhabitants of that city.

At this place Erkenwald, the fourth bishop of London, founded the second nunnery of the Saxons in England†, in the year 666. It was of the order of St. Benedict, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Ethelburga, the first abbess, (sister to the founder) who, with her successor, was canonized. It stood on the north side of the church-yard. One gate and part of the wall is still remaining.

The manor of Barking, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, belonged to Sir William Hewett, who was lord mayor of London in 1589, and concerning whom the following story is related. Sir William lived upon London-Bridge, and had an infant daughter. One of his maids playing with the child out of a window over the river Thames, by chance dropped her in, almost beyond expectation of being saved. A young gentleman, named Edward Osborne, then apprentice to Sir William, at this calamitous accident jumped in boldly, and saved the child: in memory of which deliverance, and ingratitude, her father afterwards bestowed her in marriage to the said Mr. Osborne, with a very great dowry. Several persons of quality courted the young lady, and particularly the Earl of Shrewsbury; but Sir William Hewett said, "Osborne saved her, and Osborne shall enjoy her." This Mr. Osborne was ancestor to the present Duke of Leeds.

The parish of Barking is large, and so much improved by lands recovered from the Thames and the river Roding, that the great and small tythes are computed at above six hundred pounds a year.—A little beyond this town, towards Dagenham, stood a great old house, where the gunpowder plot is said to have been contrived.

INGATESTONE is a market-town, six miles from Chelmsford, and twenty-three from London. It consists chiefly of inns, being a post-town, and the great thoroughfare to Norfolk, Suffolk, Harwich, and Colchester. A considerable market

† Folkestone nunnery was the first, which was founded thirty-six years before.



market for live cattle is held here every Wednesday; and a very large fair is annually held here on the 1st of December, the principal commodity of which is also live cattle.

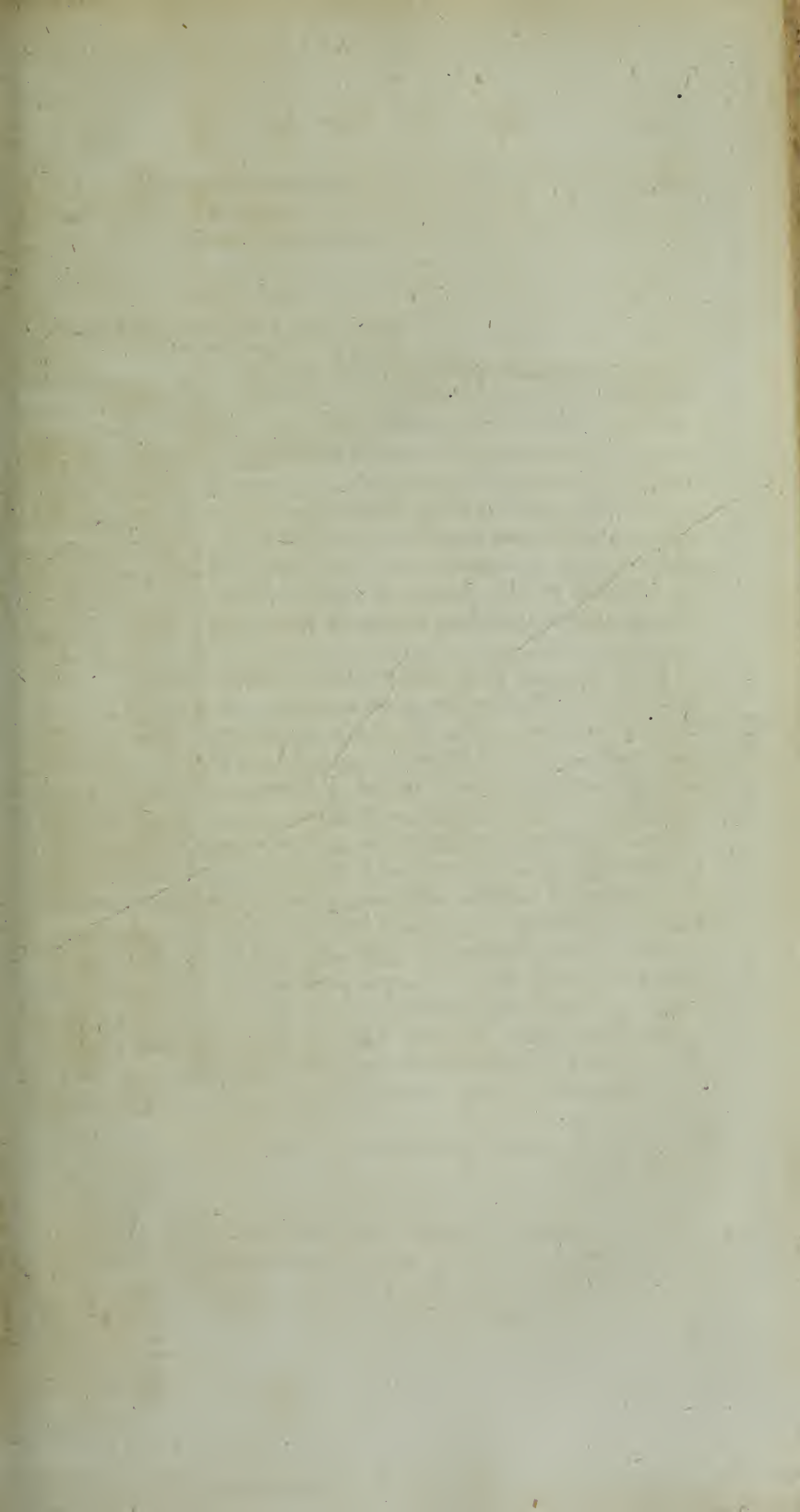
**WITHAM** is a neat and pleasant town, about thirty-seven miles from London, and between eight and nine from Chelmsford. It is a post-town, and contains some good inns. It has a market for grain on Tuesdays, and two fairs are held here annually, one on the Monday before Whitsunday, and the other on the 14th of September. Edward, the son of King Alfred, commonly called Edward the Elder, built this town in the beginning of his reign, and resided at Malden during the time it was building.—Witham church stands upon an eminence, about half a mile west from the town. The walls both of the church and steeple are of Roman flint, except the top of the tower, which is brick. There are some monuments in the church, two of which are ancient.

**COGGESHALL** is a market-town, about seven miles from Witham, and forty-four from London. It stands partly on the declivity of a hill, is pleasantly situated, and is pretty large and populous. Here is a market on Thursdays for corn, and an annual fair on Whitsun Tuesday. The church is a spacious and lofty edifice, and stands pleasantly at the upper end of the town, having a good prospect southward.

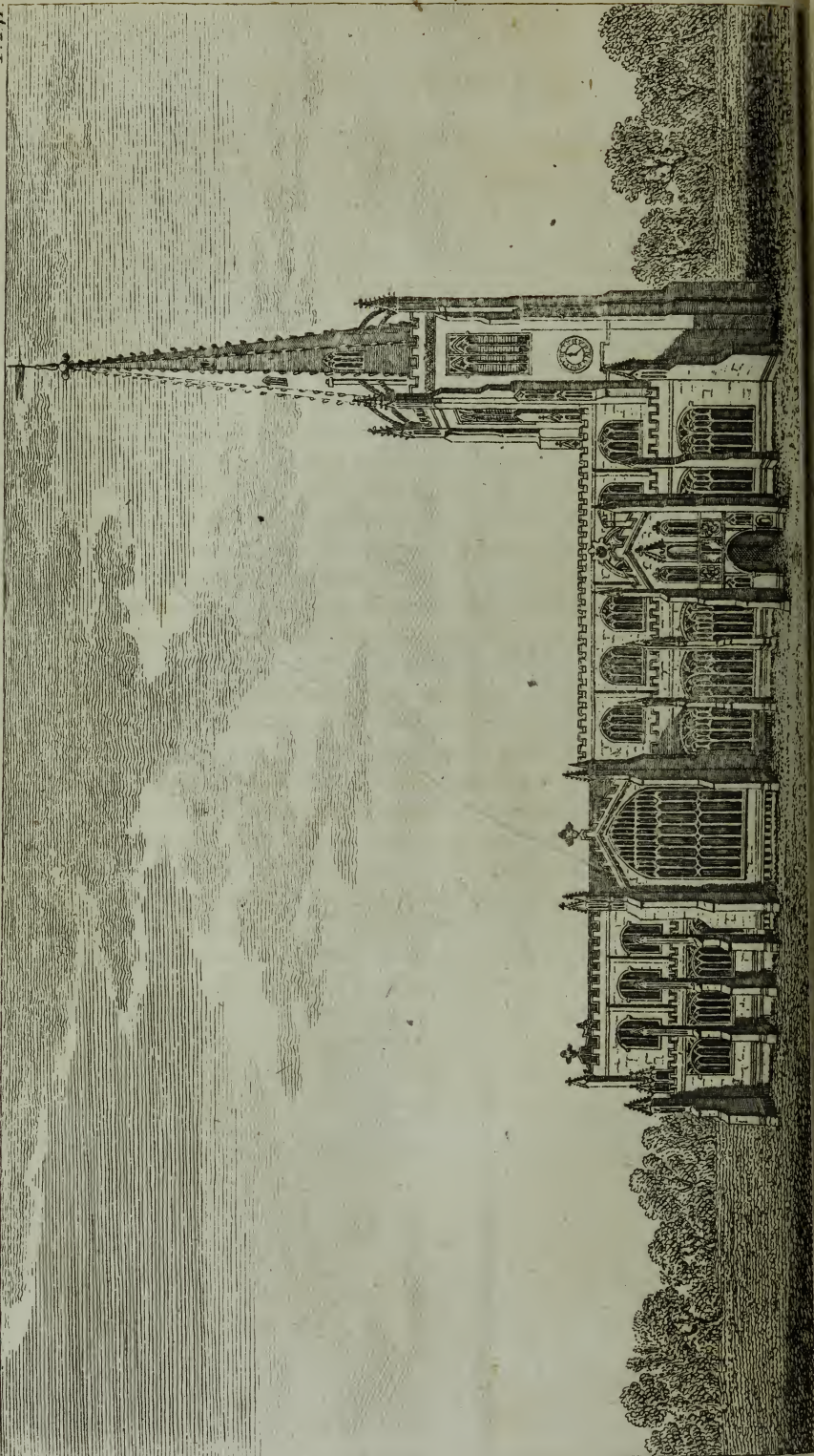
Hereabouts have been found the remains of some ancient little Roman station, or villa, adjoining to the road which leads to the town. An arched vault of brick was discovered, and in it a burning lamp of glass, covered with a Roman tile about fourteen inches square, and an urn with ashes and bones, and other antiquities.

An abbey was founded here in the year 1142, by King Stephen and Queen Maud, for Cistercian or White Monks, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The remains of the abbey stand within the precincts of Little Coggeshall, near the river: it was a Gothic edifice, but is now mostly demolished.

**BRAINTREE** is about six miles from Coggeshall, and forty from London, and is a great thoroughfare from London into Suffolk and Norfolk. The buildings are mostly old, and of timber, but improved of late. Here is a market every Wednesday,







nesday, well supplied with all kinds of necessaries, and at which vast quantities of corn, malt, and hops, are sold v sample. Two fairs are held here annually; one on the 2d of October, which holds three days; and the other on the 8th of May, which lasts the same time; the principal traffic of which is live cattle, butter, and cheese.

DUNMOW is a very ancient town, situated pleasantly on a hill, at the distance of forty miles from London. The trade of this place is inconsiderable, but a manufacture of baize and blankets is carried on here. In the centre of the town stands what is called the market-cross, which is a very ancient edifice; and over against this is the guildhall, in which the town officers meet to transact the corporation business. The market is on Saturday, and here are two fairs held for toys only, one of which is on the 6th of May, and the other on the 8th of November. The church stands near a mile north from the main street, in a bottom, and is a large neat building.

THAXTED is an ancient town, six miles from Dunmow, and forty-two from London. There is but little trade in this place; but here are two fairs annually, one held on the 10th of August, and the other on the Sunday after the Ascension. This town is chiefly remarkable for its church, which is the finest in the county. It is a noble Gothic building; and the length of it is an hundred and eighty-three feet, and the breadth eighty-seven feet, in the inside, exclusive of the thickness of the walls and the projection of the buttresses: it is three hundred and forty-five yards in circumference, is built cathedral-wise, with a cross isle, and consists of a spacious and lofty body, with north and south isles. At the west end stands a noble tower, and spire, all of freestone, the perpendicular height of which, from the summit of the vane to the ground-floor is sixty yards and one foot.

HALSTEAD is a pleasant and healthy town, at the distance of forty-seven miles from London, situated on the side of a hill, the foot of which is watered by the river Colne. There are many hops produced here, for the excellency of which this town is famous; and a manufactory for baize is established here. A market is held here every Friday, and two fairs annually, one on the 6th of May, and the other on the



29th of October, for cattle, hops, and toys. Here is a grammar-school which was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

DEDHAM is situated seven miles from Colchester and fifty-seven miles from London. This was anciently a famous cloathing town, so early as the reign of King Richard the Second; and the baize trade extended into it afterwards, but is now greatly upon the decline. The town is tolerably well built, and there are some very large houses in it. Here is a grammar-school, the governors of which were incorporated by a charter granted by Queen Elizabeth; and that princess particularly enjoined the parents of the boys who were educated at this school, that they should furnish their sons with bows, shafts, bracers and gloves, in order to train them to arms.—Dedham church is a handsome and spacious building; and the roof of an arch underneath the steeple is finely adorned with the arms of the two families of York and Lancaster, and red and white roses; and at the east side of the battlements there is a statue of Margaret Countess of Richmond, and coronets all round.

MANNING-TREE is a market-town at the distance of sixty miles from London. It is situated on the south side of the river Stour, and a considerable trade is carried on here in deals, coals, iron, and corn; and from hence the best whittings, and a quantity of other fish, are carried to Colchester. The market is held here on Thursday, and here is a fair on the 15th of June. Manning-Tree church is a neat edifice, and was built at the expence of the late Richard Rigby, Esq.

MALDEN is a very ancient town, at the distance of thirty-seven miles from London. It stands on an eminence or side of a hill, south of Blackwater Bay. It consists of one wide street, extending from west to east near a mile, which is crossed near the top by another. On the west side of this town are the remains of a camp, through the middle of which is the road to Chelmsford: three sides of the fortifications are visible, being a square or oblong, inclosing about twenty-two acres; the rest is built upon and defaced. The bay here makes a convenient harbour for ships, and the merchants carry on a considerable trade in coal, iron, deals, and corn. Malden

den has sent burgesſes to parliament from the third year of the reign of Edward the Third. The market here is on Saturday, and a fair is held here three weeks before Michaelmas, and another on Lady-day and two days after.

A ſhopkeeper of this town, whoſe name was Edward Bright was rendered famous by his extraordinary bulk and weight. He is mentioned in *The Philoſophical Tranſactions*, and prints were publiſhed of him. Another inſtance of ſo vaſt a ſize is ſcarcely to be met with in ancient or in modern hiſtory. At the age of twelve years he weighed one hundred and forty-four pounds; at nineteen he weighed three hundred and thirty-fix pounds; about thirteen months before he died, his neat weight was forty-one ſtones and ten pounds, or five hundred and eighty-four pounds; at the time of his death he was manifeſtly grown bigger ſince his laſt weighing, in that proportion by which he had increaſed on an average, viz. of about two ſtones a year; ſo that he was nearly forty-four ſtones, or ſix hundred and ſixteen pounds, neat weight. He meaſured five feet nine inches and an half in height; his body round his cheſt was five feet ſix inches, and round the belly ſix feet eleven inches. His arm in the middle was two feet two inches about, and his leg two feet eight inches. After his death ſeven men were buttoned in his waſtcoat. He died in 1750, aged twenty-nine. He was an active man till a year or two before his death, when his corpulency ſo over-powered his ſtrength, that his life began to be a burthen to him. He left a widow big with the ſixth child. His coffin was of an enormous ſize, and they were obliged to cut a way through the wall and ſtaircaſe, to let his corpeſe down into the ſhop. It was drawn upon a carriage to the church, and let down into the vault by the help of a ſlider and pulleys.

ROCHFORD is a market town, at the diſtance of forty-one miles from London, and ſituated on a ſmall ſtream that falls into the river Crouch. It gives its name to the hundred in which it lies. The market is on Thursday, and here are two fairs annually, one on Eaſter Tueſday, and the other on the Wedneſday after Michaelmas-day.

At *King's Hill*, about half a mile north-eaſt of Rochford church, is held what is called *The Lawleſs Court*, a whimſical cuſtom, the origin of which is not known. On the Wedneſday morning next after Michaelmas-day, the tenants are



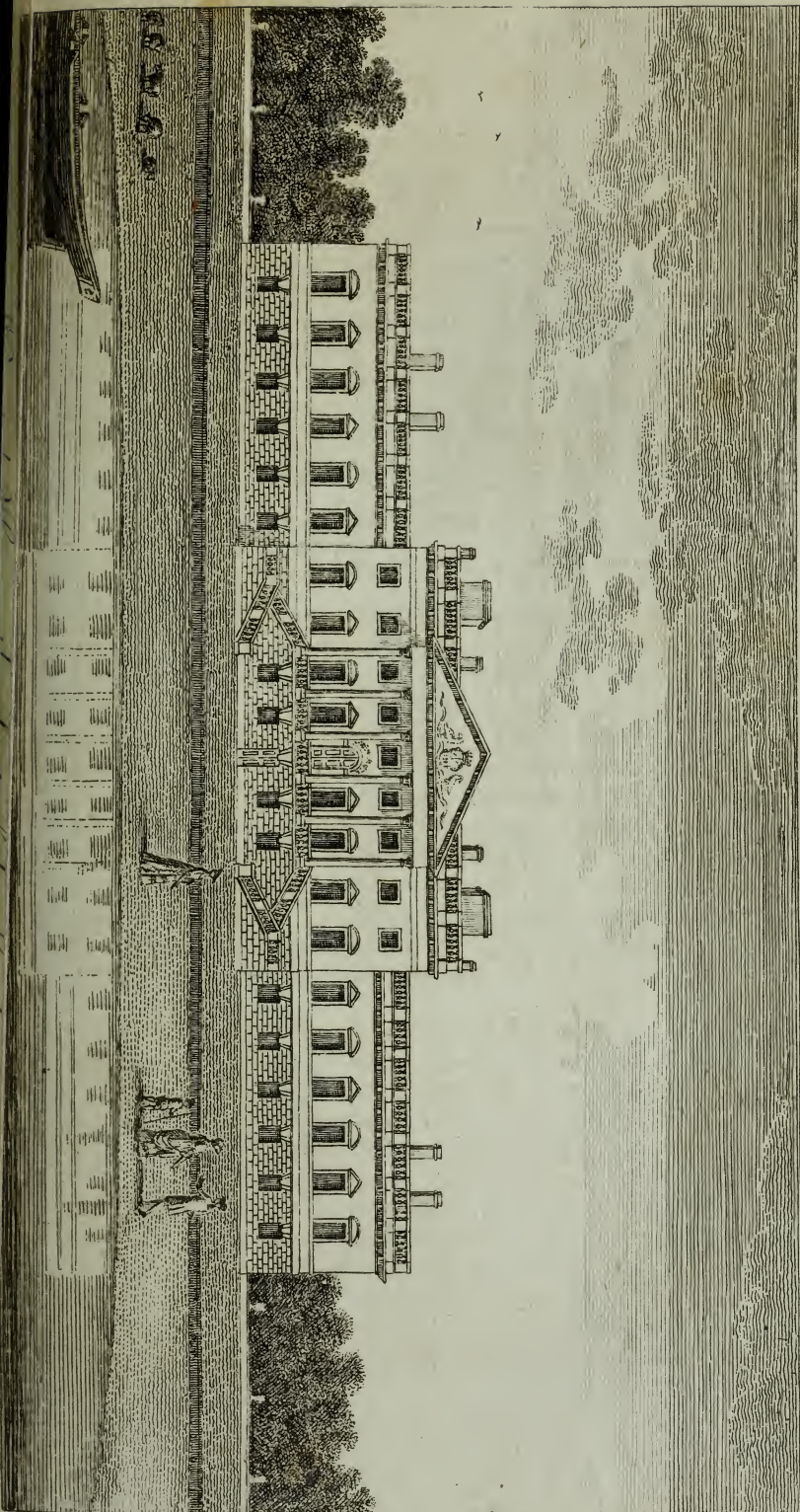
bound to attend upon the first cock-crowing, and to kneel and do their homage, without any kind of light but such as the heavens will afford. The steward of the court calls all such as are bound to appear, with as low a voice as possible, giving no notice when he goes to execute his office; however, he that gives not an answer is deeply amerced. They are all to whisper to each other, nor have they any pen and ink, but supply that deficiency with a coal; and he that owes suit and service, and appears not, forfeits to the lord of the manor double his rent every hour he is absent. A tenant of this manor some years ago forfeited his land for non-attendance, but was restored to it, the lord only taking a fine.

### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

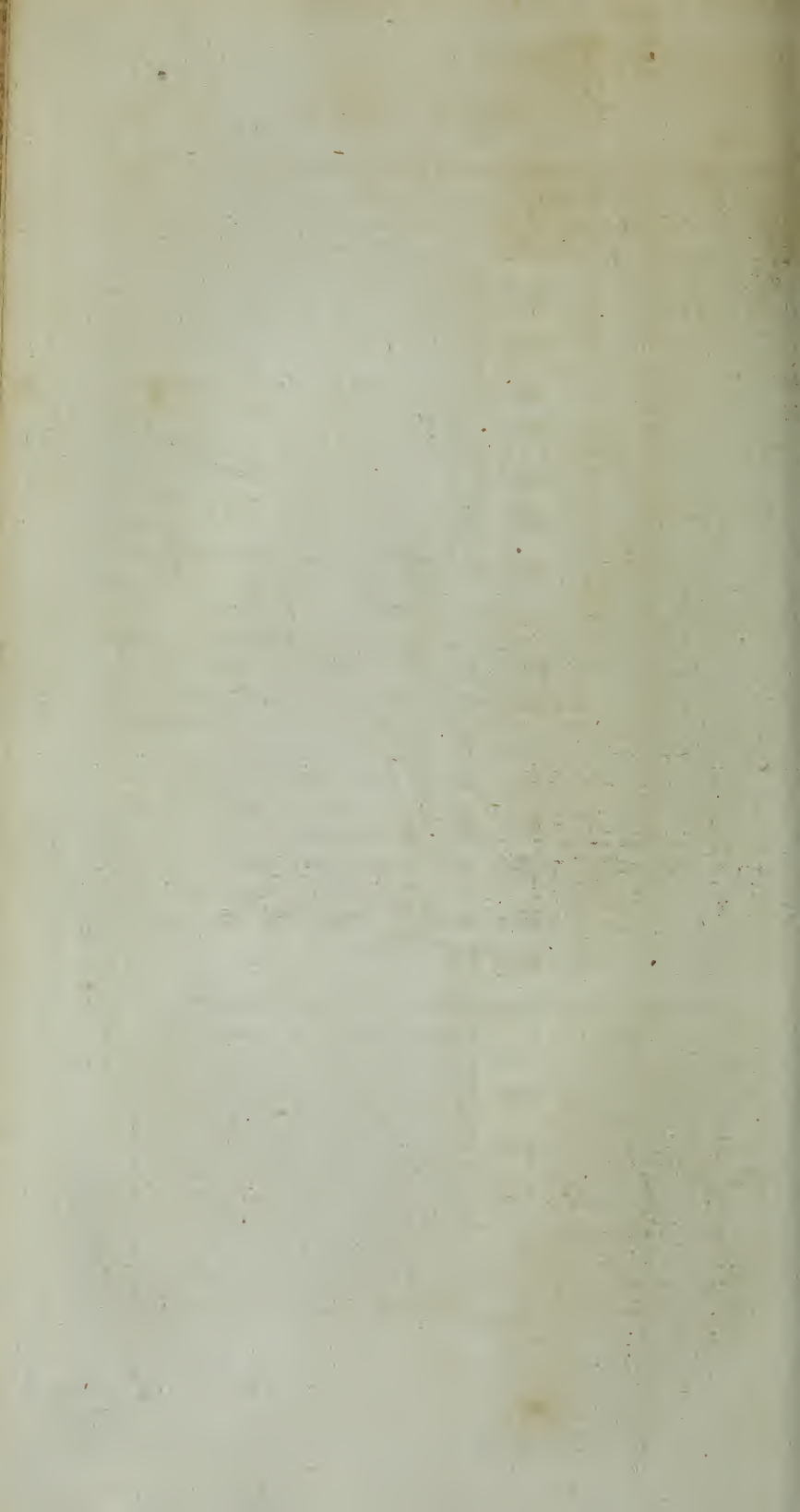
There are in the village of Wansted, and in its neighbourhood, several fine seats of the nobility, gentry, and wealthy citizens; but their lustre is greatly eclipsed by *Wansted House*, the magnificent seat of Earl Tylney. This noble seat was prepared by Sir Josias Child, who added to the advantage of a fine situation, a vast number of rows of trees, planted in avenues and vistas, leading up to the spot of ground where the old house stood. The late Lord Tylney, before he was ennobled, laid out the most spacious pieces of ground in gardens that are to be seen in this part of England.

The green-house is a very superb building, furnished with stoves and artificial places for heat, from an apartment which has a bagnio, and other conveniencies, that render it both useful and pleasant.

The house was built since these gardens were finished, by the late Earl of Tylney, and designed by Colonel Campbell, and is certainly one of the noblest houses, not only near London, but in the kingdom. It is two hundred and sixty feet in length, and seventy in depth, fronted with Portland stone. It consists of two stories, the state and ground story. This latter is the basement, into which you enter by a door in the middle underneath the grand entrance, which is a noble portico of six Corinthian columns supporting a pediment, in which are the arms of Lord Tylney. To this you ascend by a flight of steps, and pass into a magnificent saloon, richly decorated with painting and sculpture, through which you pass  
into







into the other state rooms, which are suitably furnished with pictures, gilding, velvet, tapestry, and other rich hangings. Before this house is an octangular basin, which seems equal to the length of the front. On each side as you approach the house, are two marble statues of Hercules and Venus, with obelisks and vases alternately placed. The garden front has no portico, but a pediment with a bas-relief supported by six three quarter columns.

The fore front of the house has a long vista that reaches to the great road at Leighton Stone, and from the back front facing the gardens is an easy descent that leads to the terrace and affords a most beautiful prospect of the river, which is formed into canals; and beyond it the walks and wilderness extend to a great distance, rising up the hill, as they sloped downwards before; so that the sight is lost in the woods, and the whole country, as far as the eye can reach, appears one continued garden.

The grand hall at Wansted House is fifty-three feet long, by forty-five broad; the ornaments consist chiefly of two large antique statues, on marble pedestals, of Livia and Domitian; and three large pictures by Casali, viz. Coriolanus, Porfenna, and Pompey taking leave of his family.

The ball room, which runs the whole breadth of the house, is seventy-five feet by twenty-seven, and is very elegantly fitted up with gilded ornaments of all kinds.

One of the dining rooms is ornamented with three large pictures by Casali, viz. Alexander directing Apelles to paint Campaspe, who is sitting naked in a chair, the continence of Scipio, and Sophonisba taking poison.

*New Hall* is now the property of Lord Waltham, and is situated in the parish of Boreham, which is three miles from Chelmsford. It is not certainly known by whom this edifice was erected; but it is supposed to have been built by Butler, Earl of Ormond, in the reign of King Henry the Seventh. It was once made a place of royal residence by King Henry the Eighth, who in 1524 kept the feast of St. George here. It afterwards came into the possession of George Monk, Duke of Albemarle, famous for the share he had in bringing about the Restoration, who lived here in great pomp.

The late Lord Waltham took down a considerable part of this great edifice, and yet reserved enough of it to make a noble



noble and commodious country seat for himself, to which he added several new offices. It must indeed, in its primitive grandeur, have been a house of extraordinary size, if what is very confidently said be true, namely, that what is now left is only one tenth part of the original building.

The great hall is one of the noblest in the kingdom. At the entrance of it the beholder is struck with its grandeur, it being upwards of forty feet high, ninety in length, and fifty wide. Opposite to the grand entrance is another door, which formerly led into a spacious court: over this are the arms of Henry the Eighth, done in basso relievo in free-stone, and well executed.

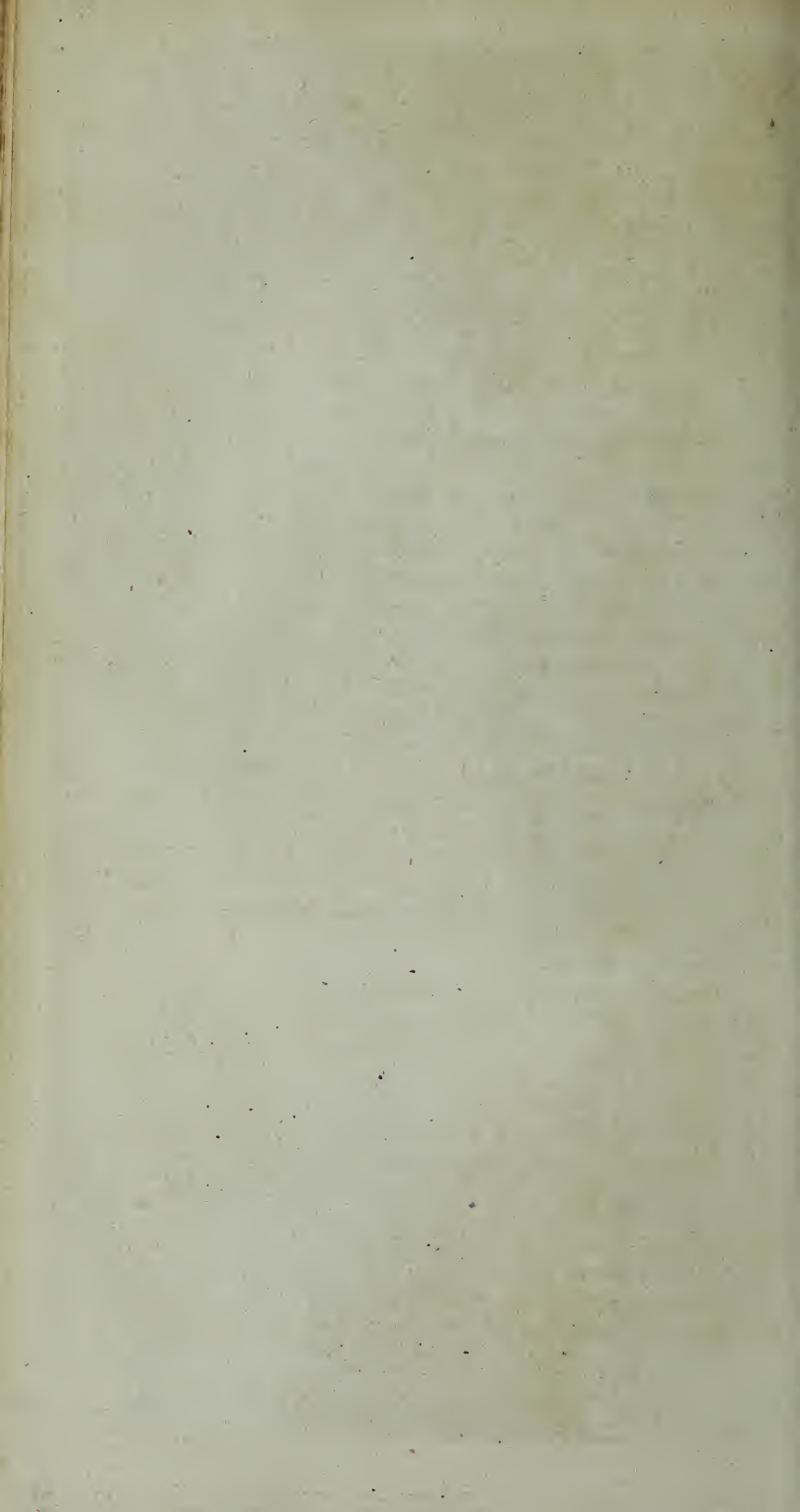
The present Lord Waltham has greatly improved this seat, and has laid out the gardens and park with much taste; he has also made a noble piece of water in the new gardens behind the house, and erected near it a good green-house. He has likewise added to the other buildings a new wing for stables and coach-houses. The avenue which leads from the great road to the house is near a mile long, and has double rows of lofty trees on each side. It is reckoned the finest in England, and gives a very venerable air to this magnificent mansion.

Richard Hoare, Esq. an eminent banker in London, has also a fine seat in the parish of *Boreham*. It is beautifully situated at the top of an avenue of trees, between which is a fine piece of water, extending from the road nearly to the house. The house itself is not very large, but of an elegant construction, built of white brick: the inside is adorned with marble chimney-pieces, and other decorations, the spoils of the ancient mansion of New Hall. The gardens are prettily disposed behind it; from these runs a delightful lawn down to the banks of the Chelmer, which, together with Danbury Hill, and various other beautiful objects that here meet the eye, furnish a most agreeable landscape.

About a mile south of Saffron-Walden is *Audley House*, or, as it is more frequently called, *Audley End*, which is at present the seat of Sir John Griffin Griffin. It was built by Thomas Lord Audley, of Walden, who was created Earl of Suffolk by King James the First, to whom he was treasurer. The Earl designed it as a palace for his Majesty, and when it was







was finished presented it to him; but the King, when he saw its vast extent and magnificence, said, that 'it would suit very well a Lord Treasurer, but was too much for a King.' It remained therefore in the possession of the Earls of Suffolk during that and the succeeding reign; but it was afterwards purchased by King Charles the Second; who, not being able to pay for it, mortgaged the hearth tax to the then Earls, as a security for the money. This tax was taken off soon after the revolution, but the state not being then in a condition to pay the money for which it had been pledged, the house was granted back again to the family. It was then the largest royal palace in the kingdom. The expence of erecting it is said to have amounted to one hundred and ninety thousand pounds. The mere model of it in wood is said to have cost five hundred pounds. It consisted of two courts, one of which, and part of the other, including a gallery two hundred and twenty-six feet long, thirty-two wide, and twenty-four high, were taken down by Henry Earl of Suffolk between seventy and eighty years ago. The part of it which is now remaining is only a fourth of its original extent. Before the west front of it are many lawns, rising to the view, and watered by the river Cam, cut in the form of a fine canal, over which are two elegant bridges. The east front commands an extensive park, walled in, and a view of the church and town of Saffron Walden. The south side looks into a curious piece of clumped pleasure ground called *The Mount Garden*; and the north into a lawn, several plantations, and a neighbouring village.

Anthony Bacon, Esq. has a good house, standing in a paddock, about a mile and half east from Walthamstow church; and Thomas Grosvenor, Esq. has a fine old house half a mile west from the same church.

A good house in the parish of *Wansted*, pleasantly situated, and having thirty acres of gardens, was built in 1690, by Sir Francis Dashwood; and from him the estate passed to Sir Orlando Bridgman; but it is now the property of Humphry Bowles, Esq.

At *Woodford Row*, Richard Warner, Esq. has a fine garden, with a labyrinth, adorned with several Greek inscriptions,  
and



and other curiosities ; and Robert Moxam, Esq. has an exceeding good house at *Woodford*, called *The Prospect House*, a name which it derives from its situation, which is remarkably pleasant.

About a mile and a quarter south-west of Chigwell church, in a bottom, washed by the river Rodin, is *Luxborough*, a fine seat belonging to John Raymond, Esq.

The manor of *Barrington*, now called *Rolls*, is about half a mile north-east from Chigwell church. The mansion house to it is an elegant modern building, with extensive offices, and every conveniency suitable to render it a very commodious and agreeable seat. It stands upon the declivity of a large hill, and is enriched with a fine prospect.

*Deux Hall*, the seat of R. Lockwood, Esq. situate in the parish of *Lamborne*, commands an extensive prospect.

*Bishop's Hall*, in the same parish, is the seat of William Waylet, Esq. It derives its name from its having been formerly the habitation of Henry Spencer, bishop of Norwich, in the reign of King Richard the Second, a prelate more celebrated for his military exploits than his learning and piety.

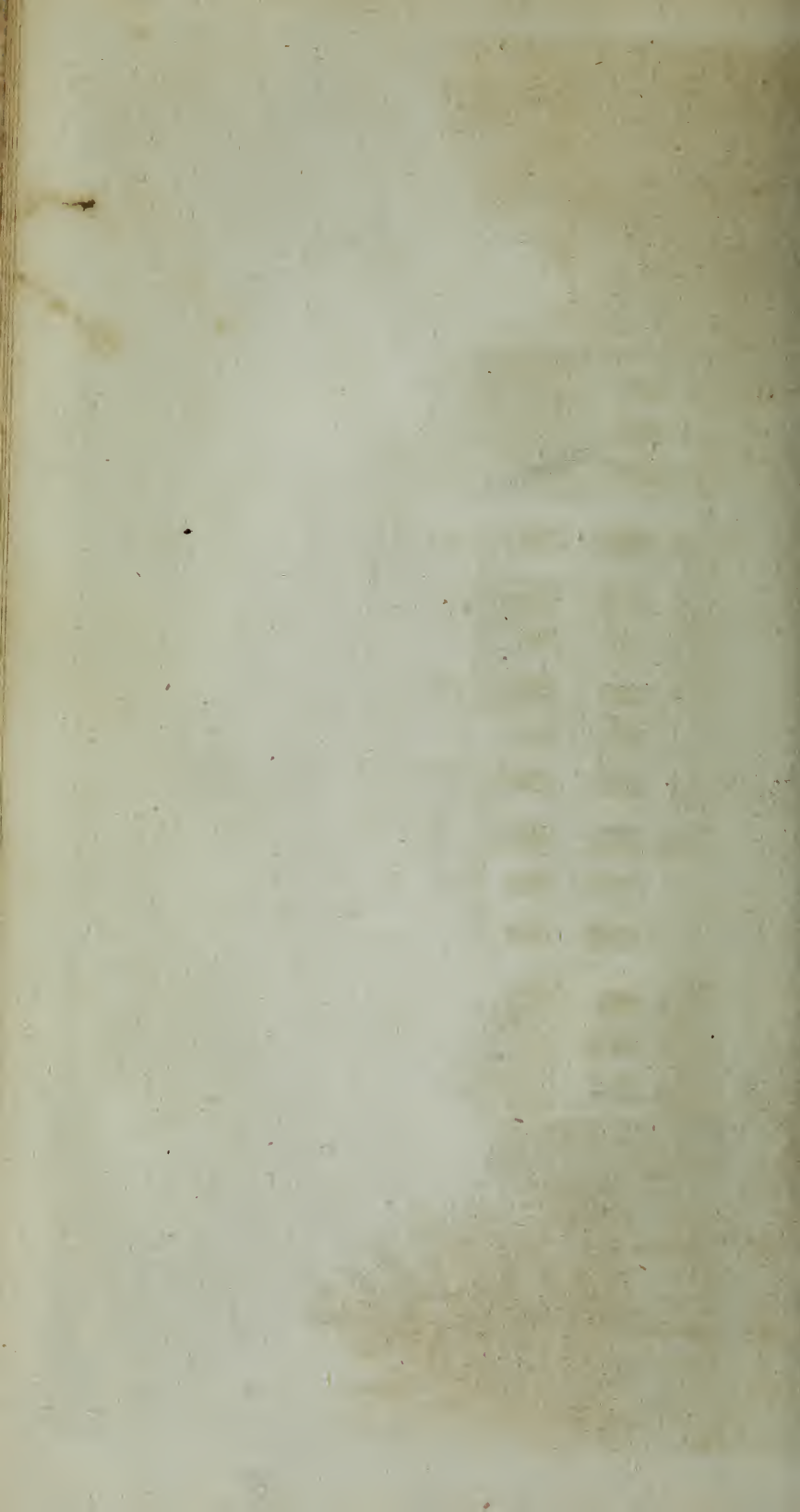
At a little distance from *Lamborne*, in the parish of *Stapleford Abbots*, Sir Anthony Thomas Abdy, Bart. has a fine seat known by the name of *albys*. It is situated about half a mile north from *Stapleford* church, and is surrounded by a small park. It is a large stately edifice, and by some thought to be erected by Inigo Jones ; but Mr. Horace Walpole is of opinion that this is a mistake.

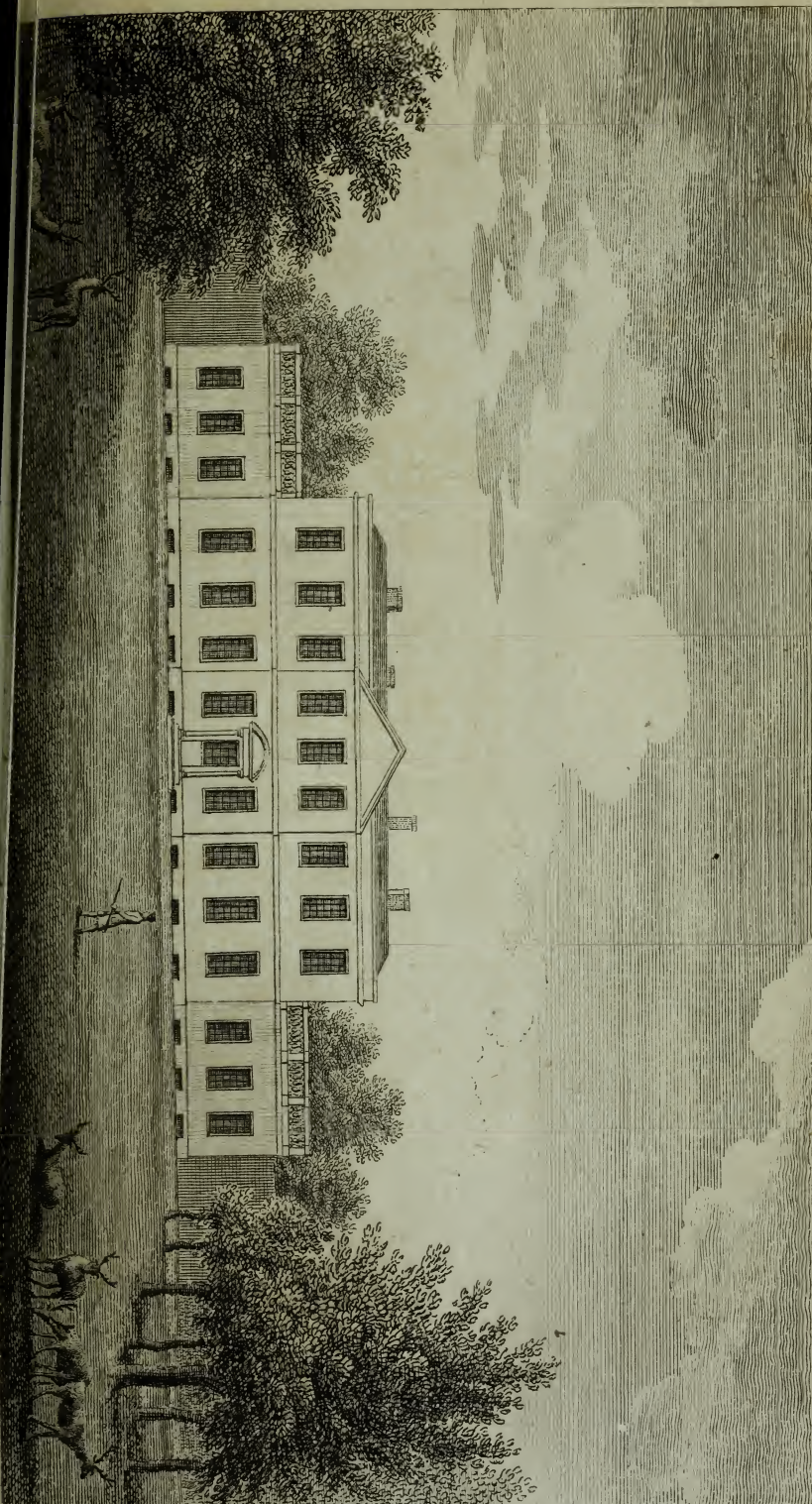
*Knowle*, otherwise *Knowle's Hill*, a mile south west from the church, is a pleasant spot in this parish, where Henry Spencer, bishop of Norwich, (of whom we just made mention) had also a seat. A piece of ground here, being a wood of twelve acres, is still called *Bishop's Moat*, where is a moat, reported to have been paved with marble.

In the adjoining parish of *Navestock* stands *Navestock Hall*, the seat of the Earl of Waldegrave. It is situated a little way north from the church, is a handsome regular brick building, and has so many advantages and decorations, both of nature and

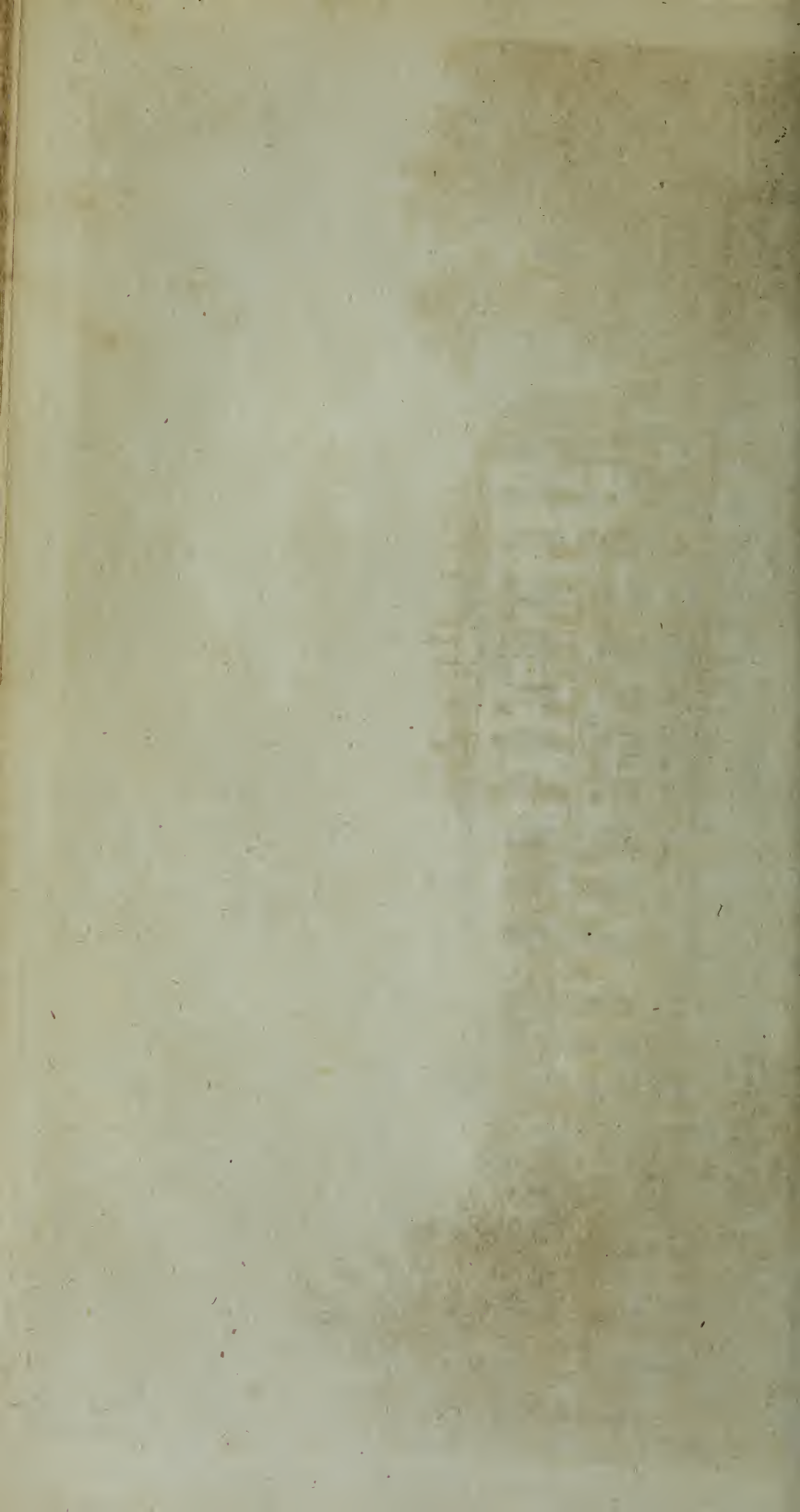


















and art, as renders it a very pleasing and elegant seat. The gardens and grounds around it have been much improved by Lord Waldegrave.

*Kelvedon Hall*, in the parish of Kelvedon Hatch, is the property of John Wright, Esq; and is a very elegant new-built brick-house, with proper offices belonging to it; and likewise pleasant gardens, some pieces of water, and other decorations; but what contributes in the greatest measure to render this spot delightful, is the rich and extensive prospect that it commands; in which a part of London, although full twenty miles distant, is to be seen in a fine clear day by the naked eye.

John Luther, Esq; has also a seat here called *Miles's*, about a mile distant from the church.

In Theydon Mount (a neighbouring parish) is a fine seat, known by the name of *Hill Hall*, which for elegance, and the fineness of its prospects, is esteemed inferior to few in the county of Essex. This edifice was built by Sir Thomas Smith, secretary of state in 1548. It is a quadrangular, with very thick and lofty walls, adorned with columns in imitation of stone. The entrance to it is northward, along a stately avenue of great length and suitable breadth, on each side of which are rows of stately elms and other plantations. Great alterations were made in it by Sir Edward Smith in the last century, and more have been made by its present owner, Sir Charles Smith.

*Coopersale* is a capital seat, situated about two miles north of Theydon Gernon church. The house stands upon the declivity of a hill, on the right hand side of the road to Epping. Around the house are a variety of beautiful lawns, vietoes, and other agreeable objects; but the prospect is very much confined.

In the parish of Loughton are several handsome villas, particularly that in which Captain Williams resides, on the left hand side of the road leading to London; one belonging to Sackville Boyle, Esq; at the bottom of Bucket Green; and another to Alexander Hamilton, Esq; upon Dedden Green. Richard Lomax Clay, Esq; formerly high sheriff of this county, has an excellent house upon the summit of Golden



Hill, which commands an exceedingly rich and extensive prospect, in which the greatest part of the city of London is included; and Loughton Hall, though it is not a regular, is a large handsome building, surrounded by a variety of beautiful prospects.

About two miles from Waltham Abbey, in the road to Epping, is a beautiful seat, named *Warleys*, lately in the possession of Mr. Carter, but now belonging to his two daughters. The house is situated in a bottom; but the park, and other objects about it, rise to the view, and form a pleasing prospect.

Edward Parker, Esq; has also a good house about a quarter of a mile east from Waltham Abbey.

*Copped Hall*, or *Copt Hall*, the seat of John Conyers, Esq; is in the parish of Epping. This is an elegant and convenient modern edifice, and is very agreeably situated. The gardens belonging to it are well laid out, and here is a large park. In the old house here was a stately gallery fifty-six yards long, erected by Sir Thomas Heneage, which was blown down in November, 1639, by a violent hurricane. At this seat was formerly a chapel, wherein was placed the fine painted glass window from New Hall chapel, and which John Conyers, Esq; sold to the parishioners of St. Margaret's, Westminster, by whom it has been put up in the chancel of that church.

Near Cheping Ongar is the parish of Greensted, wherein David Robotier, Esq; has an handsome seat, called *Greensted Hall*, which is situated a little way east from the church.

In the parish of Southweald Sir Thomas Parker, formerly Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, has a pleasant seat.

The late Thomas Towers, Esq; lord of the manor, has also a very elegant seat near South Weald church, adorned with rich plantations, handsome gardens, a good park, &c. in which latter is built a prospect house, in the form of a tower, embattled, affording a most delightful view.

The Honourable Captain Hamilton has also an agreeable seat in this parish.

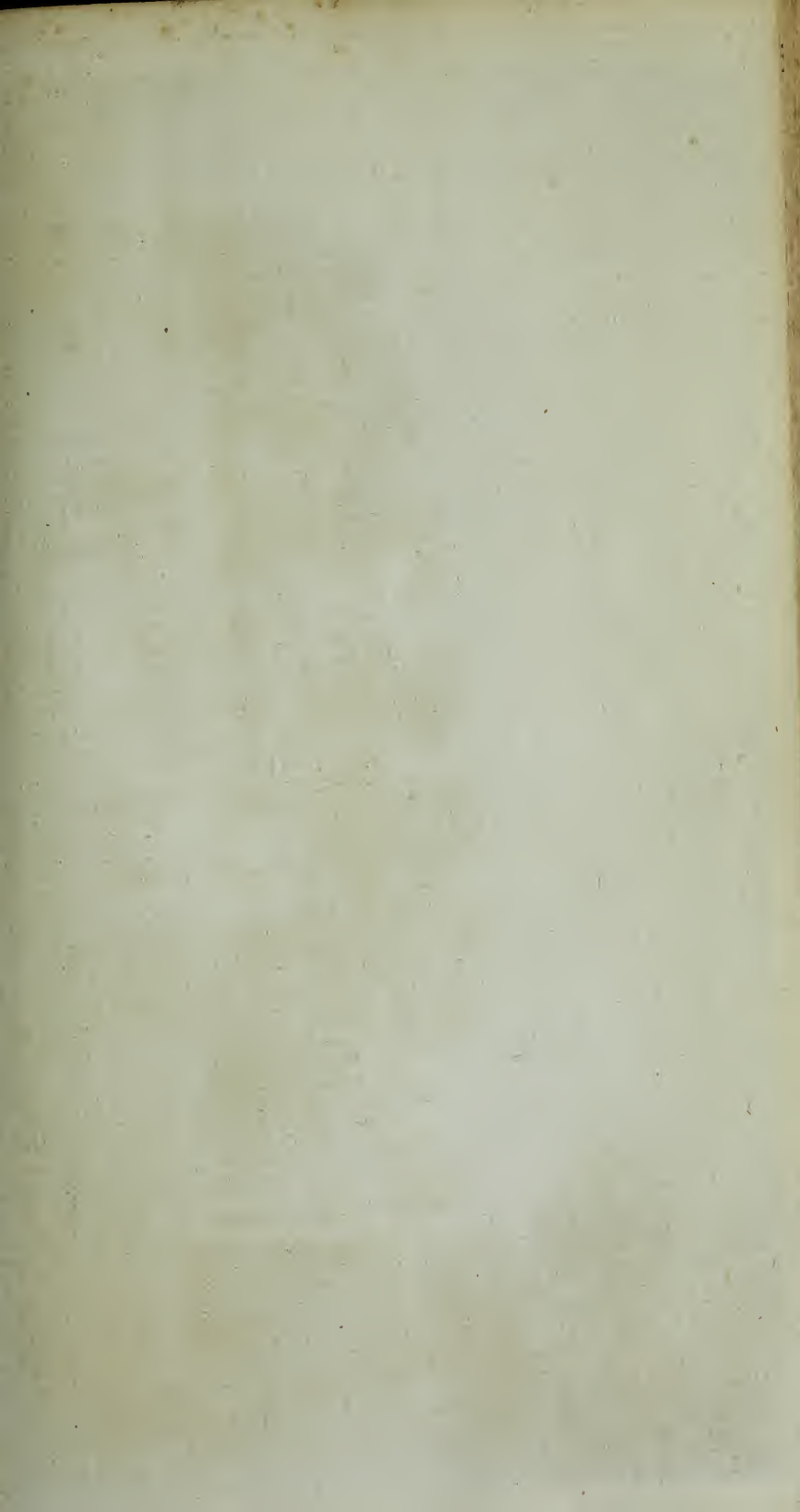
On Weald Side Common is a seat called *Ditchley's*, the residence of George Nicholls, Esq; adjoining to which is the seat of Anthony Wright, Esq.

At

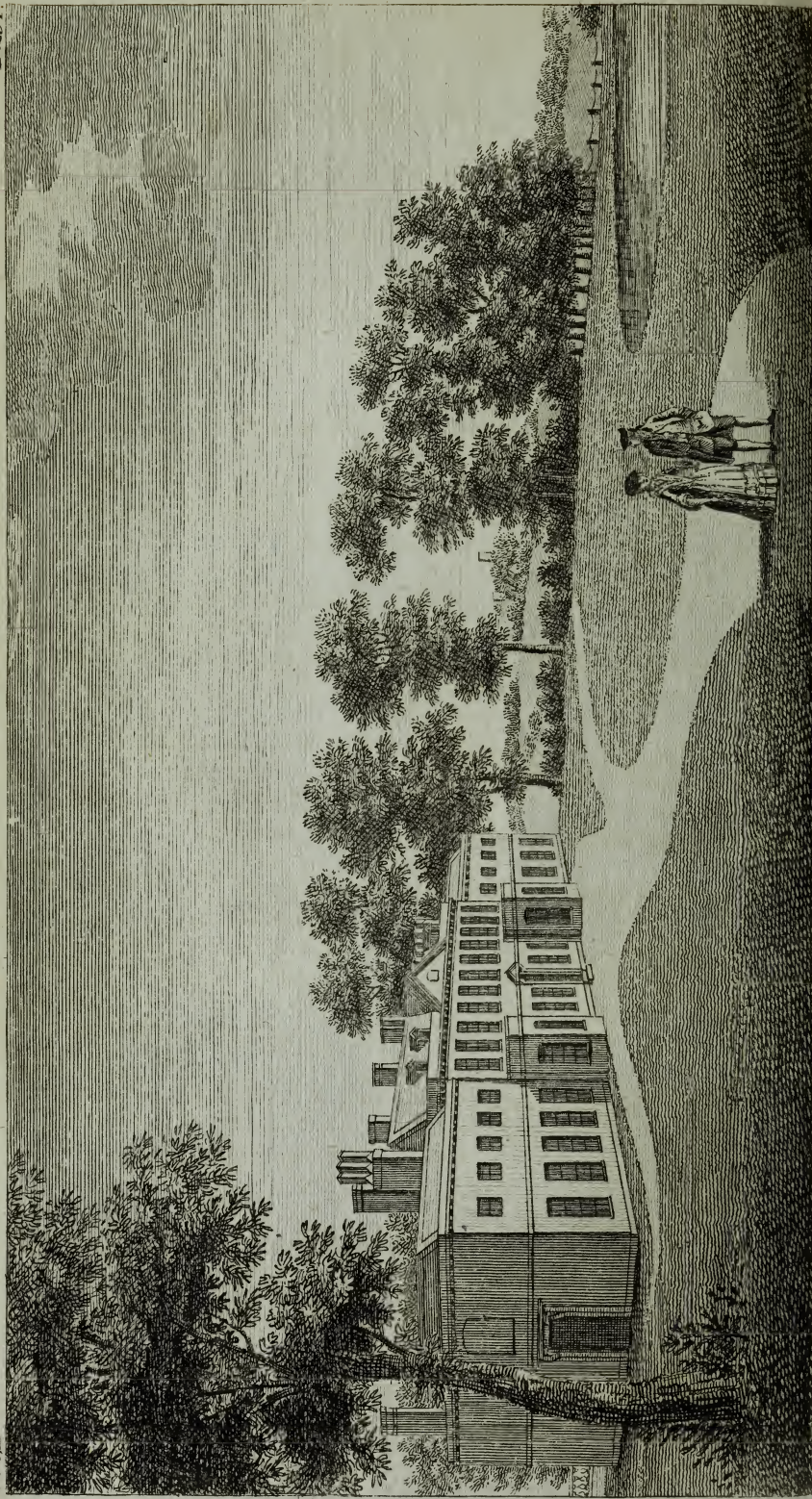












A View of the Seat of the State of New York.



At Pilgrim Hatch is *Dounsell's* the seat of Francis Manby, Esq.

Besides these, there are many very good houses that cannot be properly called seats, but which are either the residence or retirement of families of considerable fortune.

*Pirgo* is a fine seat belonging to Lord Archer, situated near Havering-at-Bower. The house is an ancient venerable structure, within a considerable park. There is a small chapel belonging to it.

About half a mile out of Romford, on the road leading to Brentwood stands *Geddy Hall*, the seat of Richard Benyon, Esq; formerly Governor of Fort St. George. It is a noble mansion, and is surrounded by a pleasant park and beautiful gardens, plentifully watered by a fine canal.

*Cranham Hall*, in the parish of Cranham, four miles from Romford, is an antique building, which is the residence of General Oglethorpe, famous for settling the province of Georgia, in North America.

In the parish of Dagenham, at the distance of fifteen miles from London, the late Henry Muilman, Esq; had an handsome seat. The building is of brick, spacious, surrounded by a park, and commanding an agreeable prospect.

About four miles north from Berking church, Charles Raymond, Esq; who was high-sheriff for the county in 1771, has a fine seat, named *Valentines*, which has been termed a cabinet of curiosities. The house is one of the neatest, and best adapted to its size, of any modern one in the county: its ornaments are well chosen, and the grounds belonging to it laid out with great judgement and taste.

Bamber Gascoyne, Esq; has also a good house about a quarter of a mile south-east from Berking church, named *Biffrons*, which commands a fine prospect, and behind it is a pretty park.

There are several handsome seats in the parish of Leyton, belonging to wealthy citizens and other gentlemen, particularly *Goring House*, also called *The Forest House*, which is



loftly fituated fronting Epping foreft, and is the property of Samuel Bofanquet, Efq.

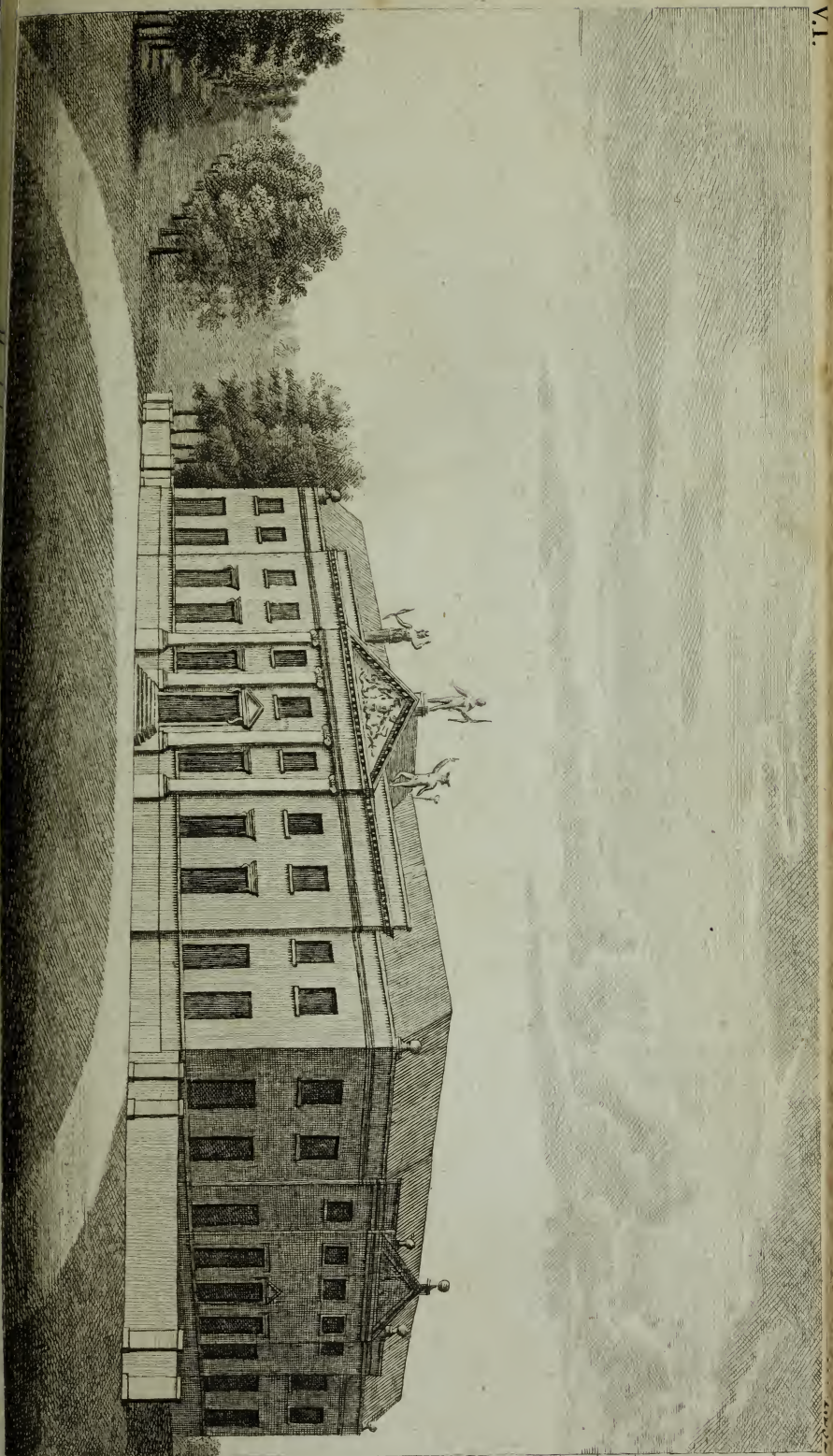
The manor-house of Leyton, which is a fine feat, is the property of Thomas Blaydon, Efq.

About a quarter of a mile north-eaft from the church, Thomas Oliver, Efq; has a beautiful feat, which formerly belonged to Sir Fisher Tench. It is a modern ftructure, adorned with large and delightful gardens, with plantations, walks, groves, mounts, and canals, ftocked with fifh and fowl.

The feat of Henry More, Efq; near half a mile weft from the church, is alfo very agreeably fituated. The houfe is large and handsome, and the gardens and decorations belonging to it are fuitable.

*Green Street*, in the parifh of Eaft Ham, (late the feat of Sir Nicholas Gerard, and now belonging to Mrs. Whitefide) was once, it is faid, the habitation of an Earl of Weftmoreland, and probably of Lady Latimer. Tradition likewife fays, that Queen Anne Boleyn was confined in a tower ftill ftanding near the faid houfe.

Sir William Mildmay, Bart. has a very handsome feat in this county, known by the name of *Moulfham Hall*. It is pleafantly fituated on an eafy afcent, about a quarter of a mile on the eaft fide of Chelmsford. The grand front commands Danbury Hill. It is a very regular edifice, and on the top of it are three ftatues, representing Diana, Apollo, and Mercury: under thefe are the family arms in baffo relievo, carved in free-ftone. The other parts of the houfe have a view of the London road, of the town of Chelmsford, and of the park and gardens. It was rebuilt by the late Earl of Fitzwalter, and was fo conftituted as to be at once elegant and commodious. The pilafters, cornices, entablatures, and other decorations, are of ftone. In the infide is a quadrangular court flagged. It has a gallery on each floor round it, by which means an eafy accefs is obtained to all the different apartments, without the inconveniency of making any of them a paffage. The principal rooms are large and well difpofed. The grand hall at the entrance is lofty, and the cieling curioufly wrought with fret-work.—In the breakfast room are many pictures of the Mildmay family, fome of which are well executed. Among thefe is Sir William Mildmay, who was  
Chancellor







Chancellor of the Exchequer in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and founder of Emanuel College, Cambridge.—The great picture room contains several family portraits; and here is also a good piece of the old Duke of Schombergh on horseback, attended by a black, who carries his helmet.—In the little picture room contiguous to this, are some good paintings: on the right hand the door is seen an half length of an old woman in a white hood, whose distorted features shew the utmost distress. Upon her shoulder a caterpillar is seen crawling, which is said not only to have caused the violent agitation apparent in her face, but also her death. Here is also an antique painting of Matilda, daughter to Lord Robert Fitzwalter, who was said to be poisoned in the abbey of Dunmow by King John.—And in another room here is a picture of one Sir Henry Mildmay, a branch of this family, representing him as dead and laid out, covered with a black velvet pall. It is said that he died abroad, and that a faithful servant, who accompanied him, employed a limner to draw him after his decease. It is so well done as to strike the beholder with some degree of horror; and for this reason has been removed from the collection to an anti-chamber.—The gardens belonging to this seat are neatly laid out, and here is also a park prettily disposed.

About three miles from Chelmsford is the parish of Widford, wherein John Richard Comyns, Esq; has an handsome seat. It is a neat modern built house, surrounded by a good park and pleasant gardens, well watered. It is called *Highlands*, from the loftiness of its situation, which circumstance renders it very delightful, from the several pleasing prospects it commands. It was erected by the late Sir John Comyns, Chief Baron of the Exchequer.

*Ingatestone Hall*, the property of Lord Petre, is a venerable stately pile of building, having within a spacious court, and before it is another, round which are the offices. It lies very low, but on that account is well supplied with water, and stored with fish ponds; and the gardens are laid out in an elegant manner.

In the parish of Ingatestone is also a very good modern built house, called *The Hide*, which was built by the late Timothy Brand, Esq; who was High Sheriff of the county of Essex in 1721, and is now in possession of Thomas Brand Hollis, Esq.

In



In the parish of Margaretting, which joins to Ingatestone and Widford, Richard Holden, Esq; has a pleasant mansion-house, known by the name of *Cold Hall*. It is an elegant modern building, situated on an eminence, with gardens well laid out.

There is also in this parish, on the left hand side of the road leading from Chelmsford to Ingatestone, a very good house belonging to Humphrey Sidney, Esq. Before the house is a pleasant avenue of stately trees.

In the parish of Great Waltham, which is about four miles from Chelmsford, John Joliff Tuffnel, Esq; has an handsome seat, about a quarter of a mile from the church, known by the name of *Langleys*. It stands on a pleasant eminence, the foot and sides of which are washed by the river Chelmer on the north, and a brook on the south. There is a good park around it, and pleasant gardens.

At the entrance into Witham, from the Colchester road, upon the left hand, is a good house and gardens belonging to the Earl of Abercorn.

General Douglas has also an handsome house in the same parish.

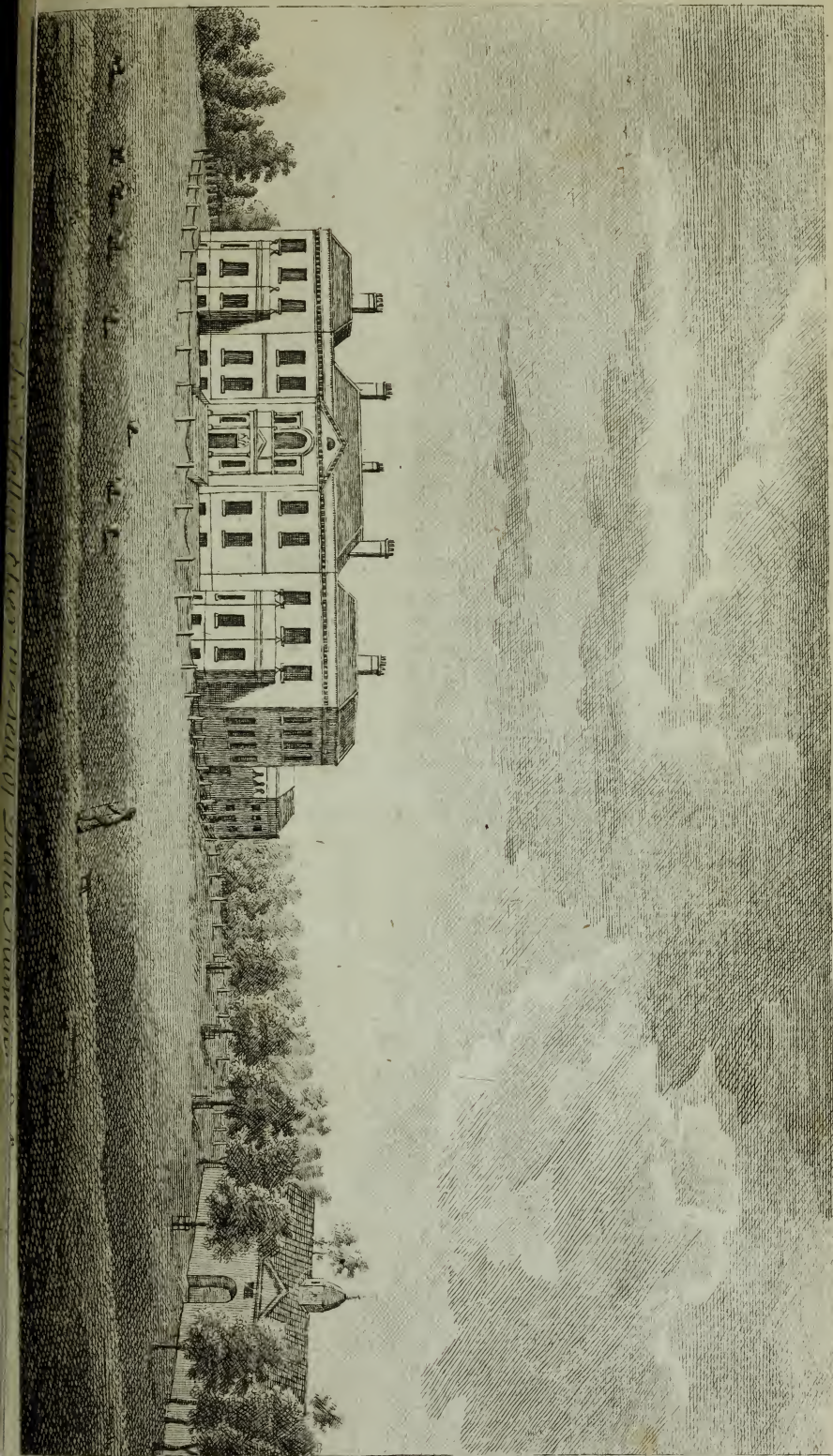
In the parish of Great Braxted, which is about three miles from Witham, Peter Du Cane, Esq; has an elegant seat, called *Braxted Lodge*. It is surrounded by a park, and stands upon an eminence which commands an agreeable prospect of the neighbouring country.

Charles Buxton, Esq; has also a good house in the same parish, with spacious gardens well watered.

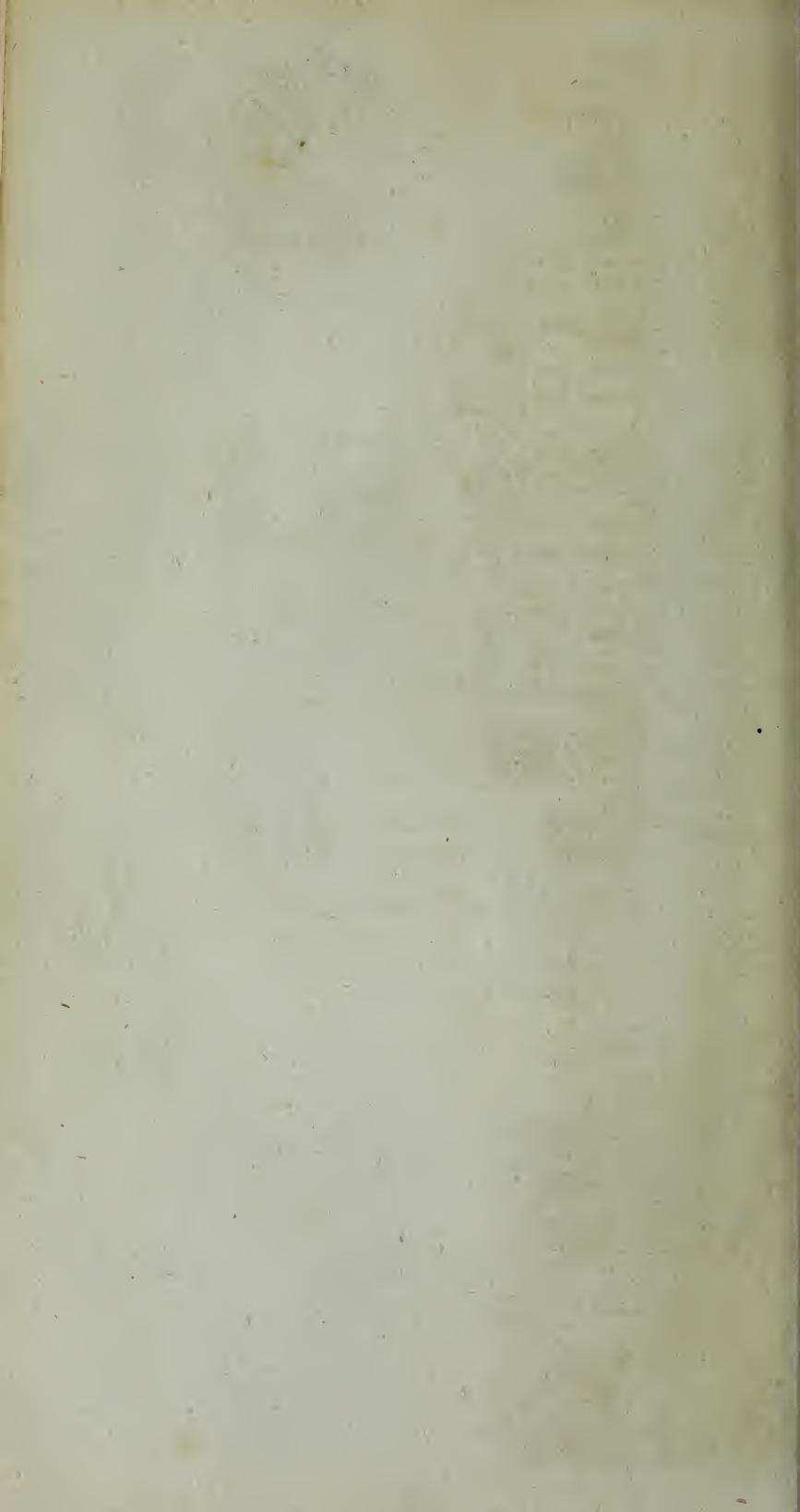
Kelvedon is four miles from Witham, and about a mile from the former is *Fælix Hall*, the seat of Daniel Matthews, Esq. It is a handsome edifice, situated on an eminence, and around it is a small park. The gardens are laid out with elegance, and have in them green-houses and hot-houses, and every other requisite to render them useful as well as pleasing.

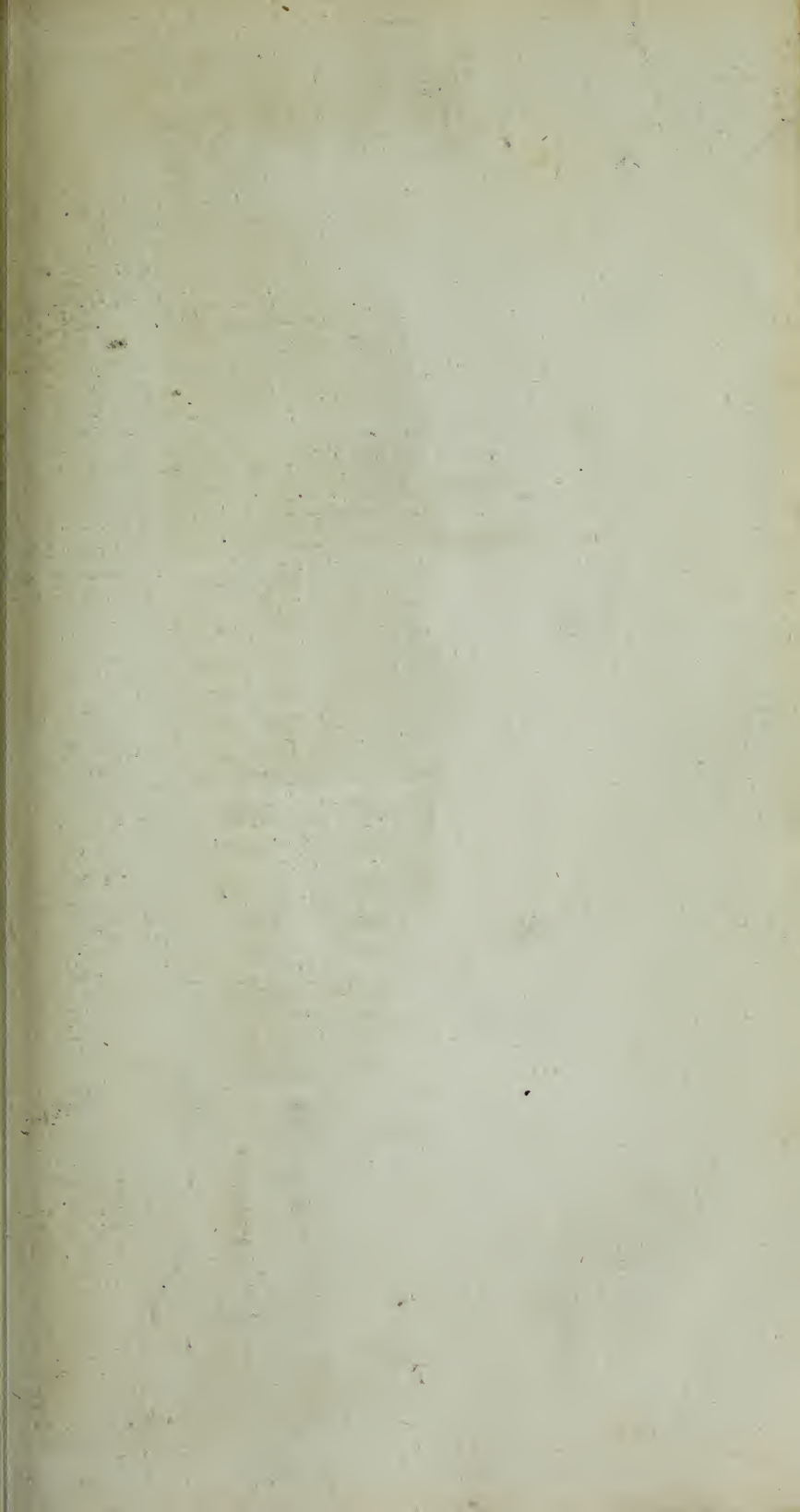
*Oldfield Grange*, near Coggeshall, is a handsome seat, (with a park) in which Osgood Hanbury, Esq; resides.

In

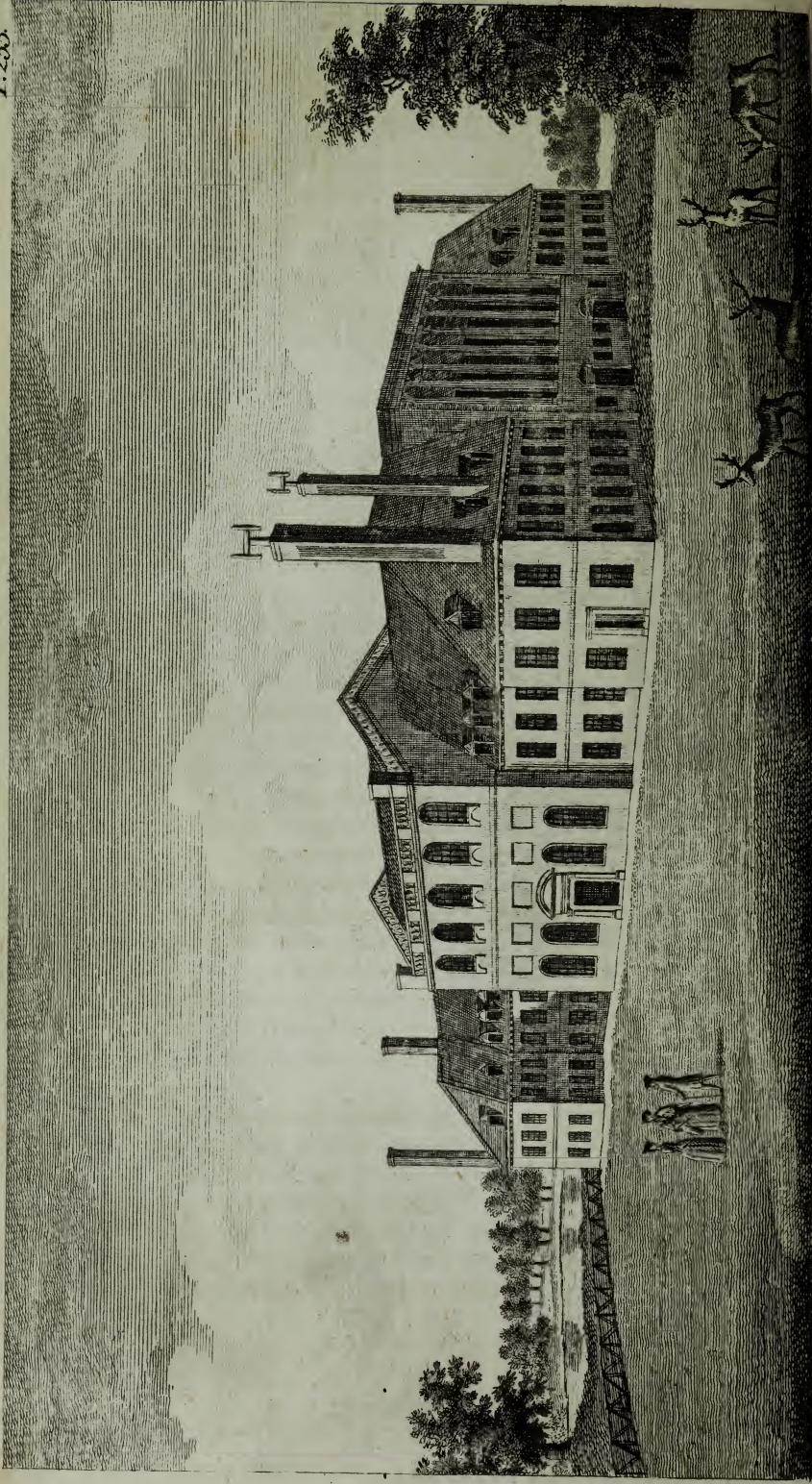












Croftfield Hall ch. p. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

In the parish of Markshall, which is two miles from Coggeshall, General Honeywood, who is lord of the manor, has a fine seat. It is an handsome edifice, pleasantly situated near the church, on the rising ground. The gardens, park, and fish-ponds, contribute to make it a very pleasing retirement. In the dining room is an original painting of Mrs. Mary Waters, or Honeywood, in a widow's habit. This memorable person was born at Lenham, in Kent, and is said to have continued forty-four years a widow, and then arriving to the age of ninety-three, saw three hundred and sixty-seven lawfully descended from her, sixteen of her own body, one hundred and fourteen grand-children, two hundred and twenty-eight in the third generation, and nine in the fourth.

In the parish of Grosfield, Lord Clare has a very handsome seat, known by the name of *Grosfield Hall*. It is situated at a small distance from the church, and is surrounded by an extensive park, and has also elegant gardens.

*Castle Hedingham*, which is about forty-eight miles from London, was the castle and chief seat of the noble family of De Vere, Earls of Oxford, on which account the appellation of castle is prefixed to it. The greater part of the castle is demolished; but the remaining tower is one hundred and ten feet from the ground to the top of the four-square large turrets at the corners. It is said there were three other towers, and in its perfect state this castle appears to have been very lofty and magnificent. Queen Maud, wife of King Stephen, died in this castle. It was reckoned a place of great strength before the invention of gunpowder. It held out some time against King John in 1215; and against the Dauphin Lewis, who had been invited over by some of the Barons in 1217.

It was at this castle that King Henry the Seventh, whose avaricious character is well known, made John De Vere, Earl of Oxford, pay so extravagantly for having had the honour of entertaining him. The King having been feasted in a very sumptuous manner by the Earl, at his going away the Earl's servants and tenants stood in their livery coats, with cognizances, ranged on both sides, and made the King a lane to pass through them. Upon this Henry called the Earl to him, and said, "My Lord, I have heard much of your hospitality,



“pitality, but I see it is greater than the speech. These  
 “handsome gentlemen and yemen, which I see on both  
 “sides of me, are sure your menial servants.”—The Earl  
 smiled, and said, “It may please your Grace, that were not  
 “for mine ease; they are most of them my retainers, who  
 “are come to do me service at such a time as this, and chiefly  
 “to see your Grace.”—The King started a little, and said,  
 “By my faith, my Lord, I thank you for my good cheer,  
 “but I may not endure to have my laws broken in my sight.  
 “My attorney must speak with you.” And accordingly the  
 King obliged him to pay a fine of fifteen thousand marks, for  
 a breach of the statutes against retainers.

Hedingham Castle is now the property of Sir Harry Houghton, Bart. who some years ago distinguished himself so honourably in the House of Commons in the promotion of religious liberty; and who has a handsome modern edifice here in which he occasionally resides.

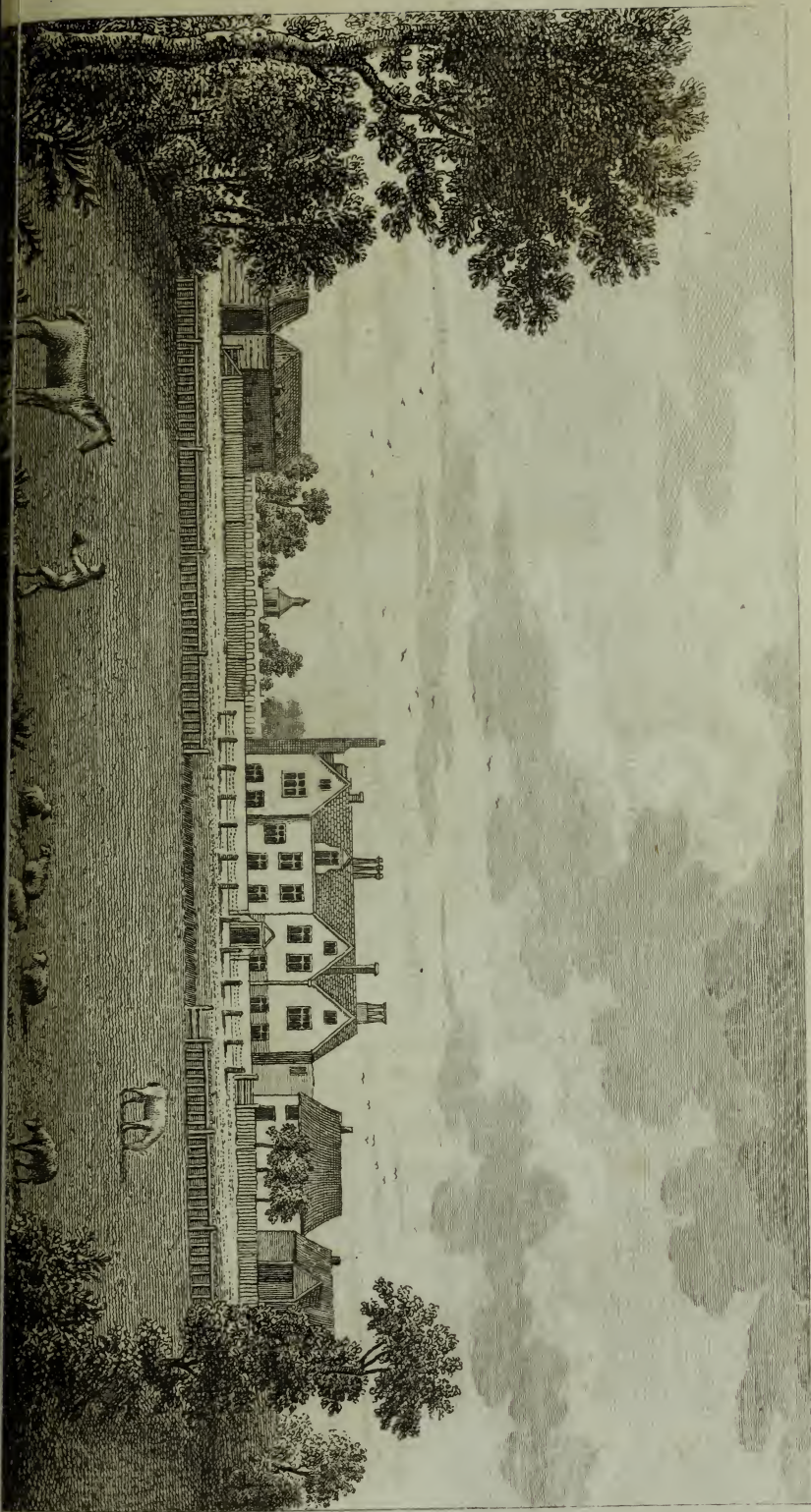
Peter Muilman, Esq; has a good seat in the parish of Castle Hedingham, known by the name of *Kirby Hall*.

In the parish of Bulmer, Robert Andrews, Esq; has an handsome seat, known by the name of *Auberries*. It is a modern, regular, and uniform brick building, and is situated upon an eminence, which commands a delightful prospect of the borough of Sudbury, and of some part of Cambridgeshire. It is adorned with gardens laid out in a pleasing taste, and has several ponds belonging to it, well stocked with fish.

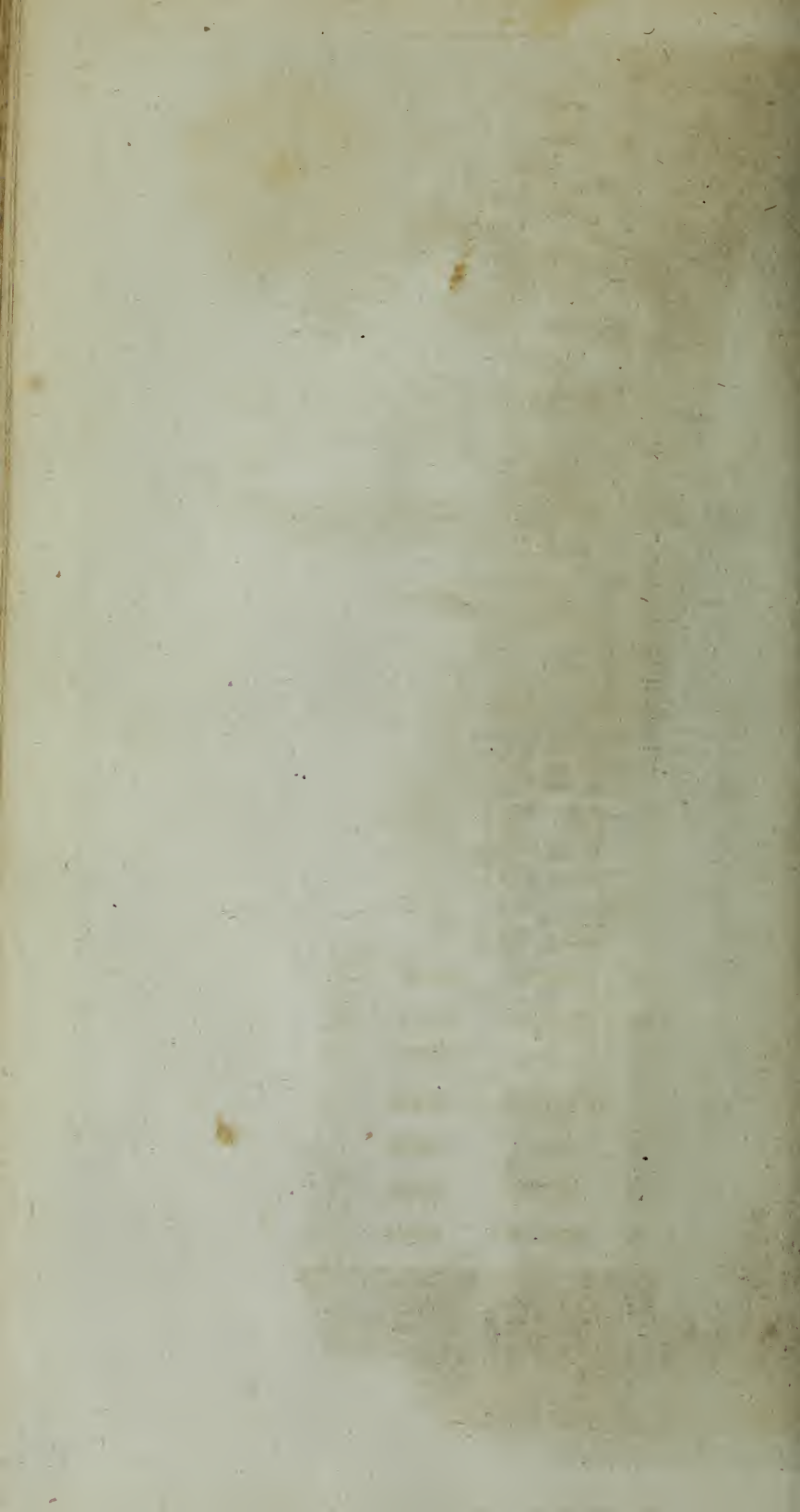
In the parish of Great Maplestead, which is about three miles from Halstead, Henry Sperling, Esq; has a pleasant seat, known by the name of *Dynes Hall*. The house is an handsome edifice, a mile south of the church, and situated upon an eminence, commanding a beautiful prospect. The gardens belonging to it are elegant.

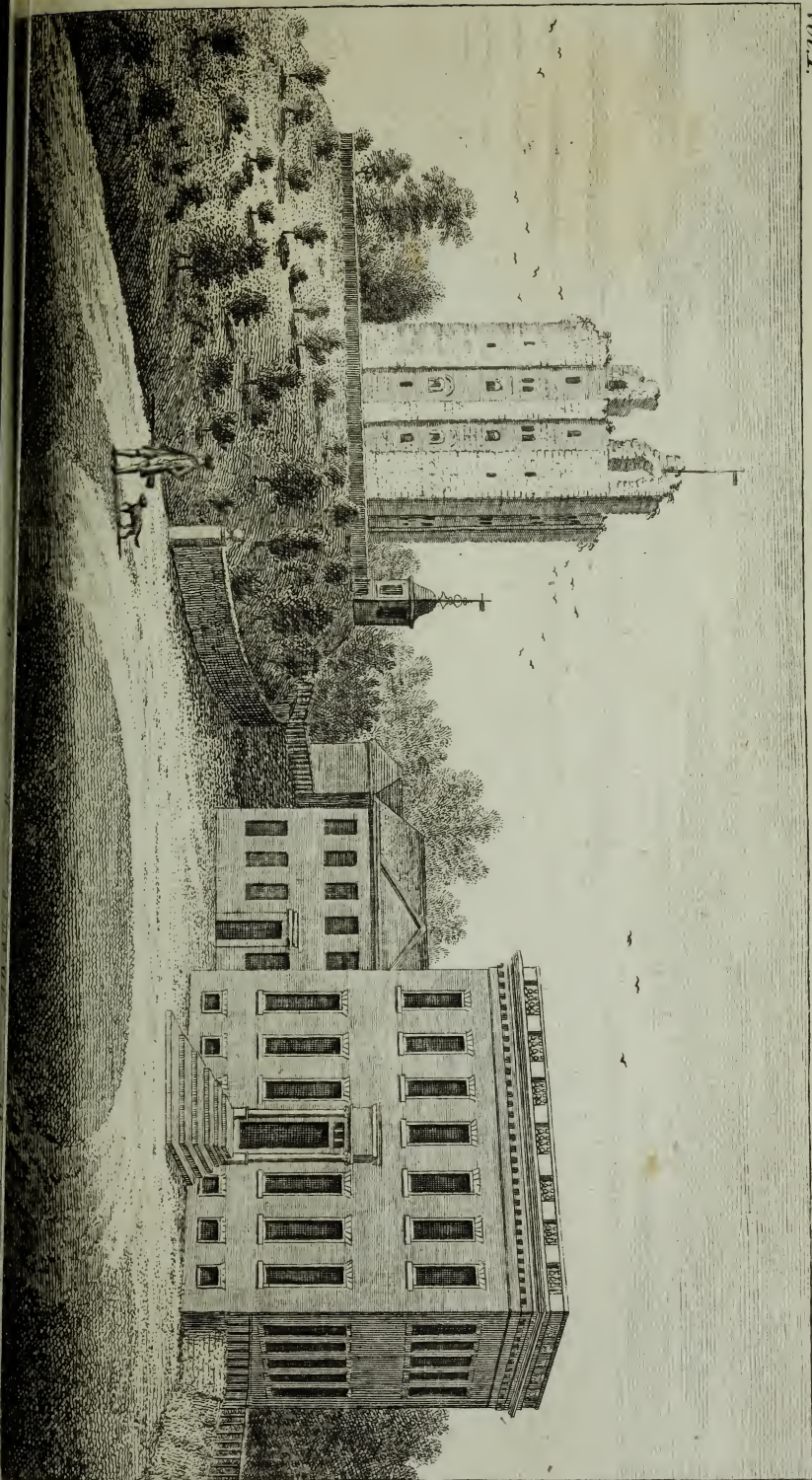
Richard Rigby, Esq; has an handsome seat near Manning-Tree, known by the name of *Mistley Hall*, which is pleasantly situated on an eminence. It is adorned with extensive gardens and plantations, laid out in much taste.

In the parish of St. Osyth, the late Earl of Rochford had a seat, consisting of a noble pile of building, which formerly  
 made

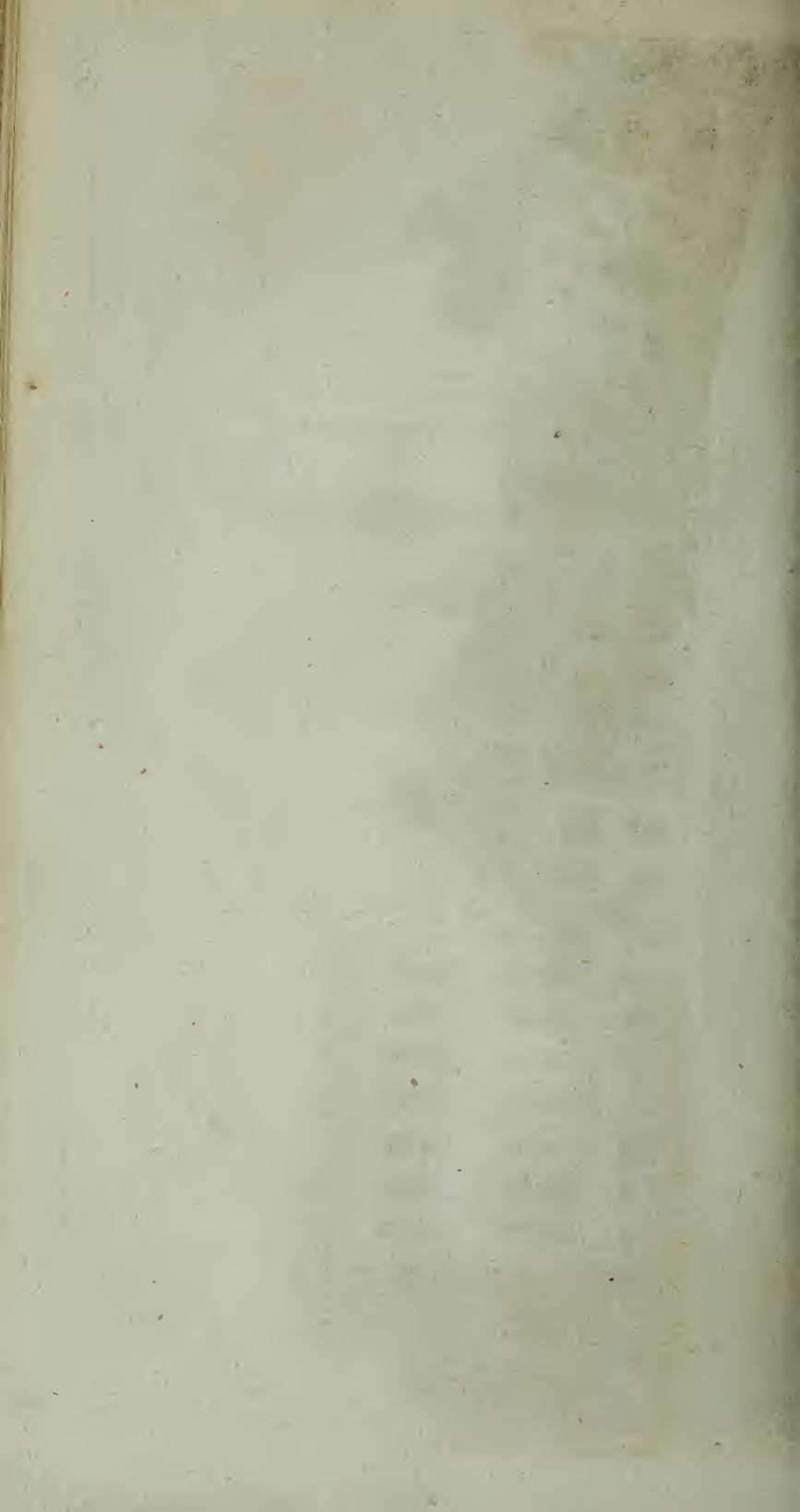


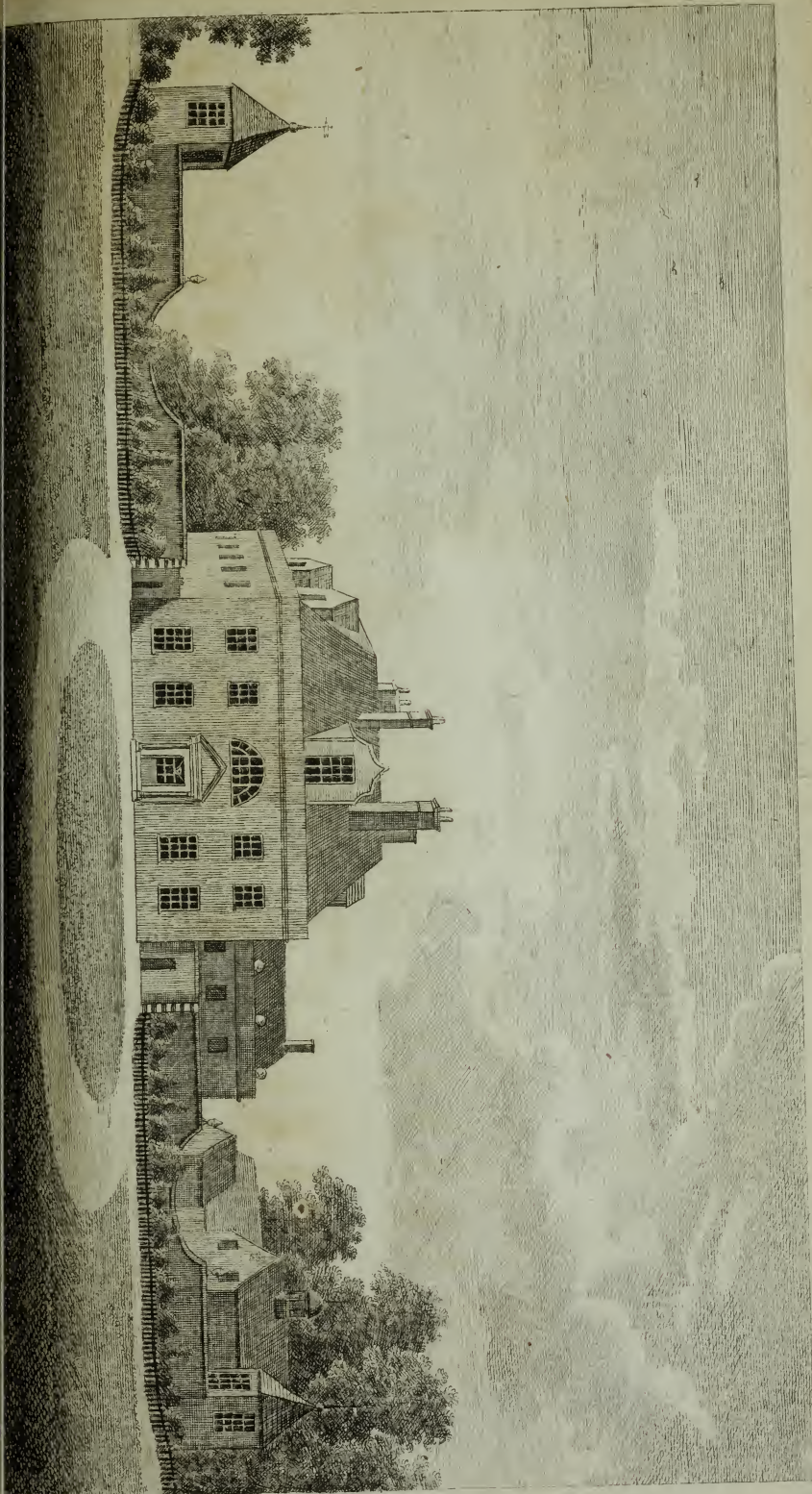




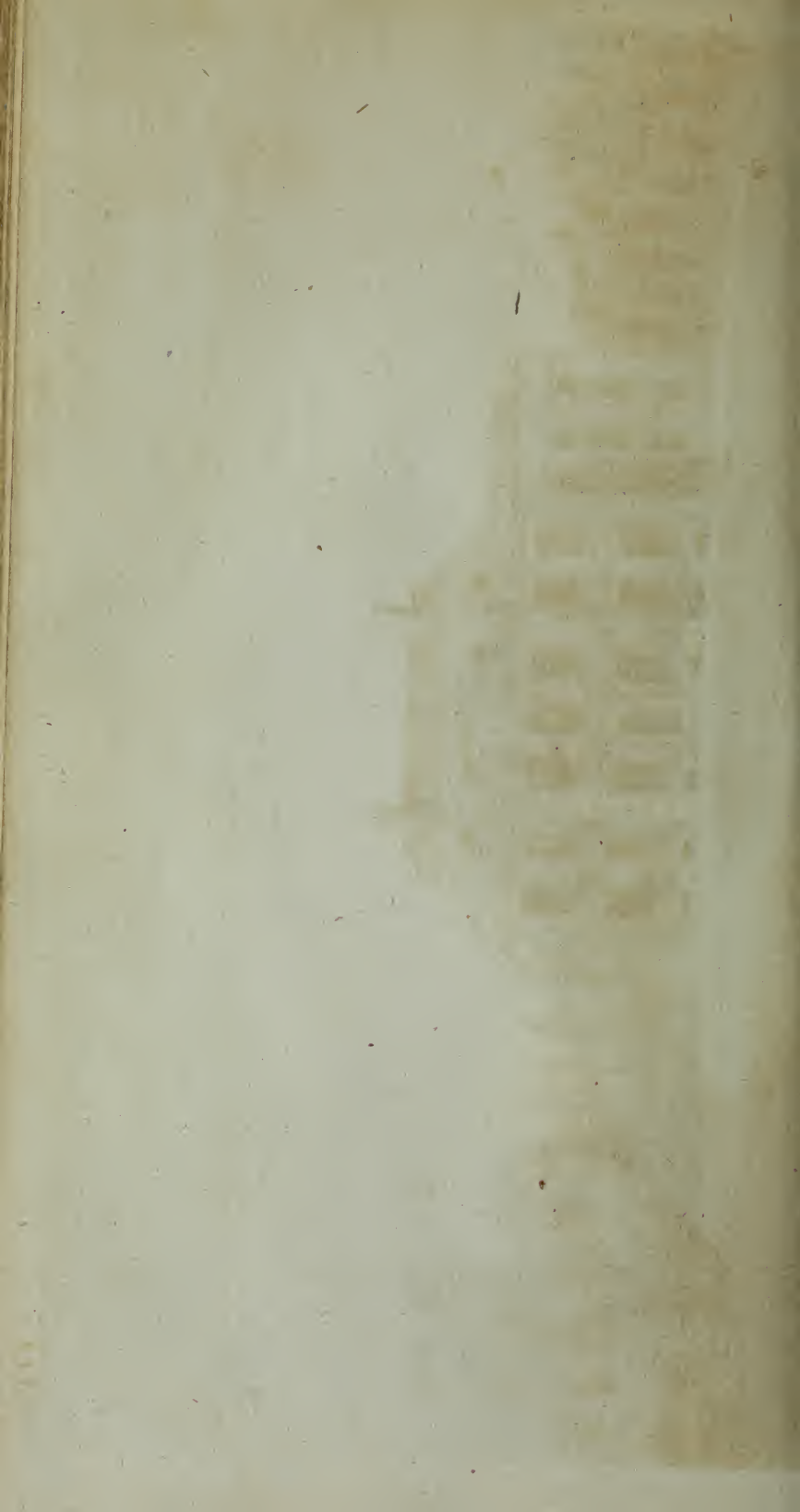






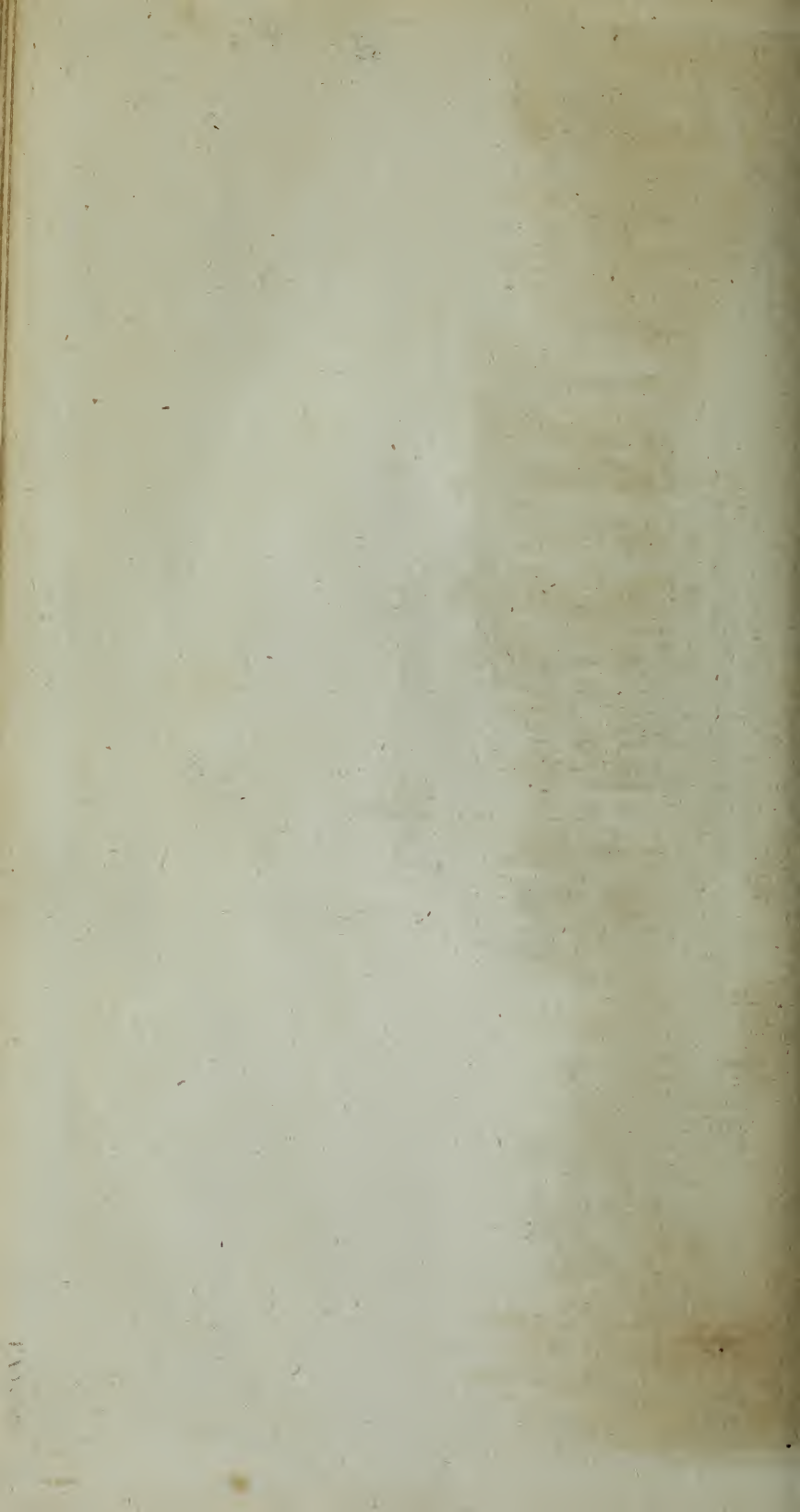


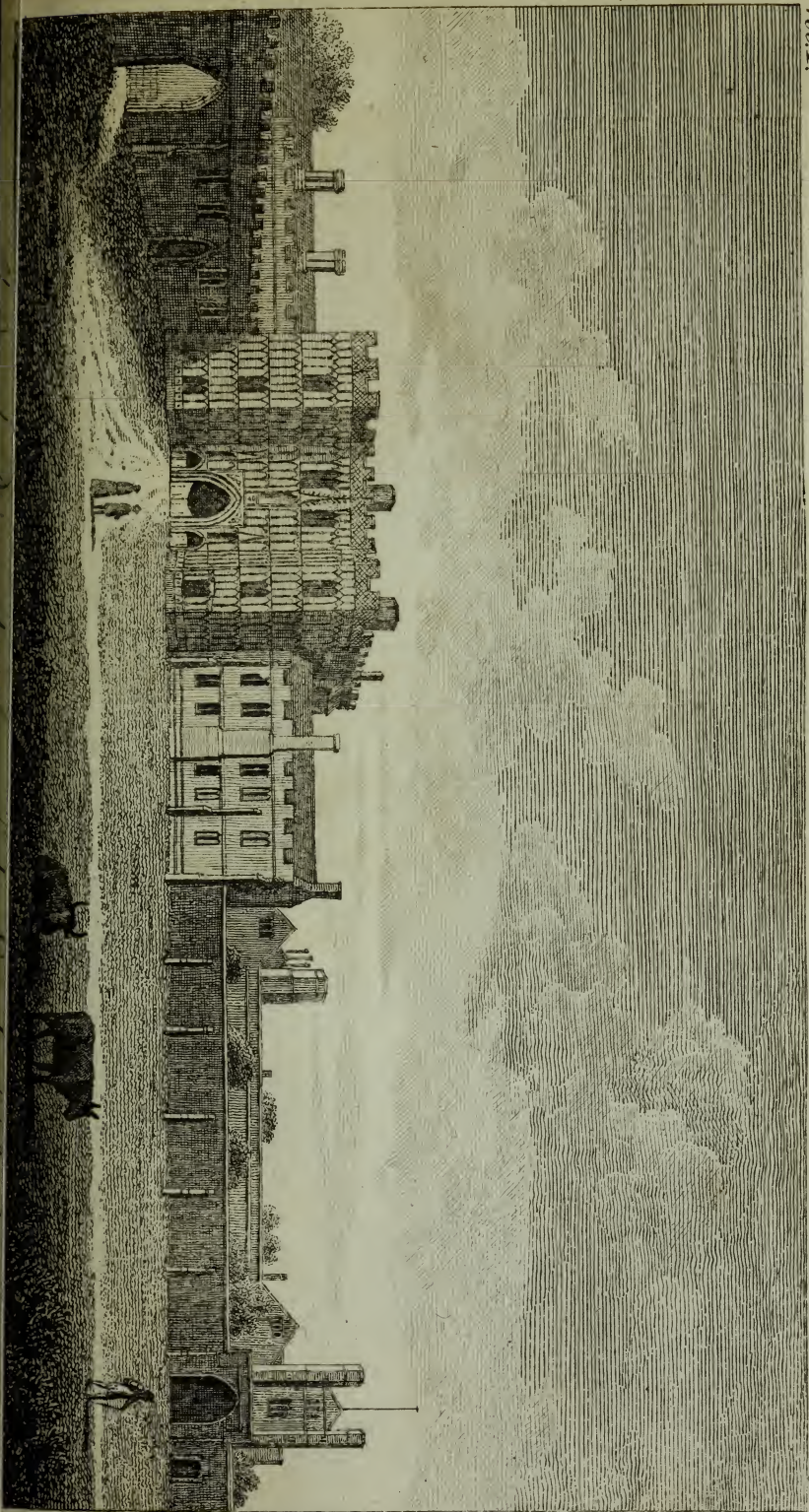




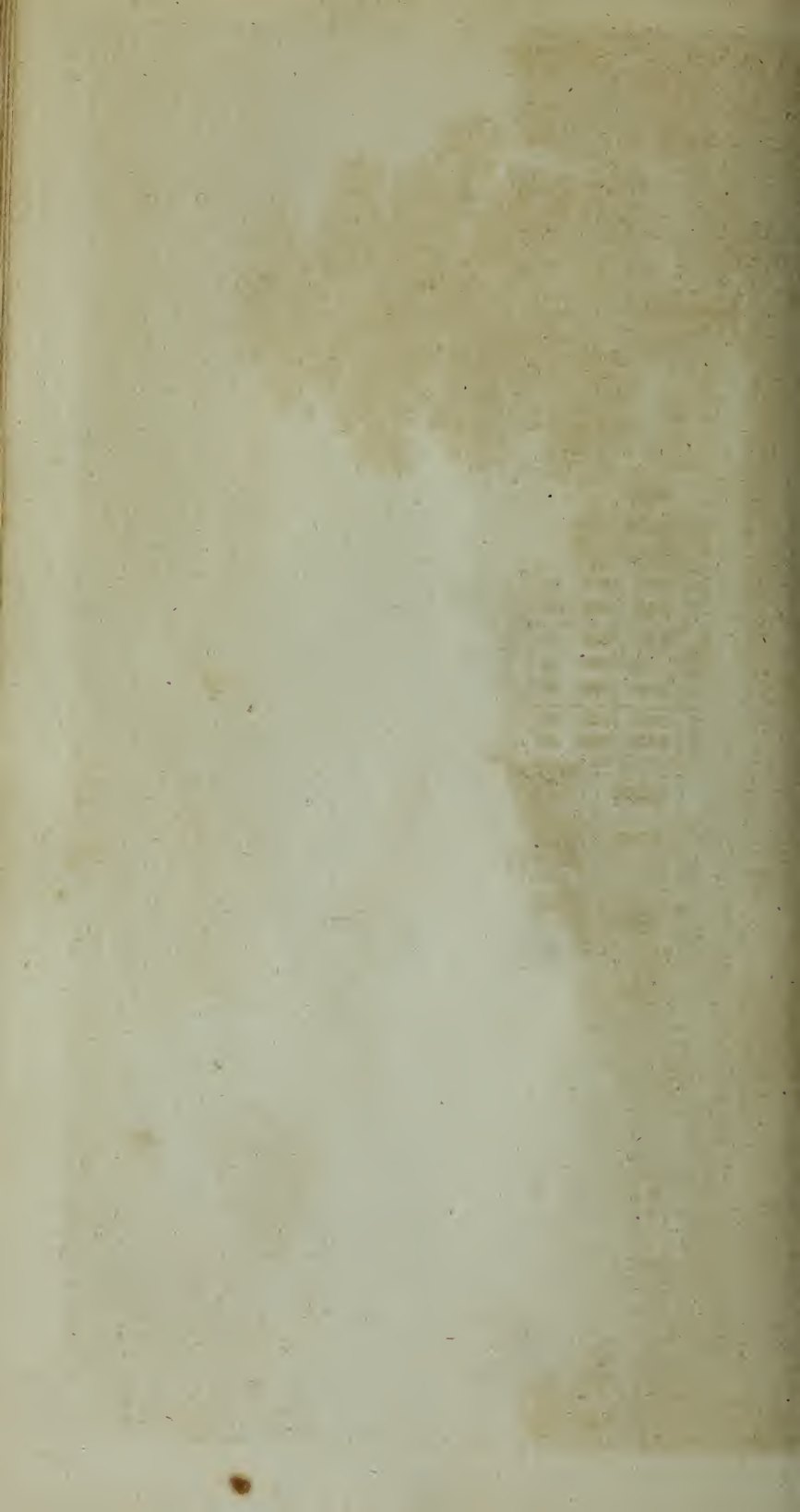






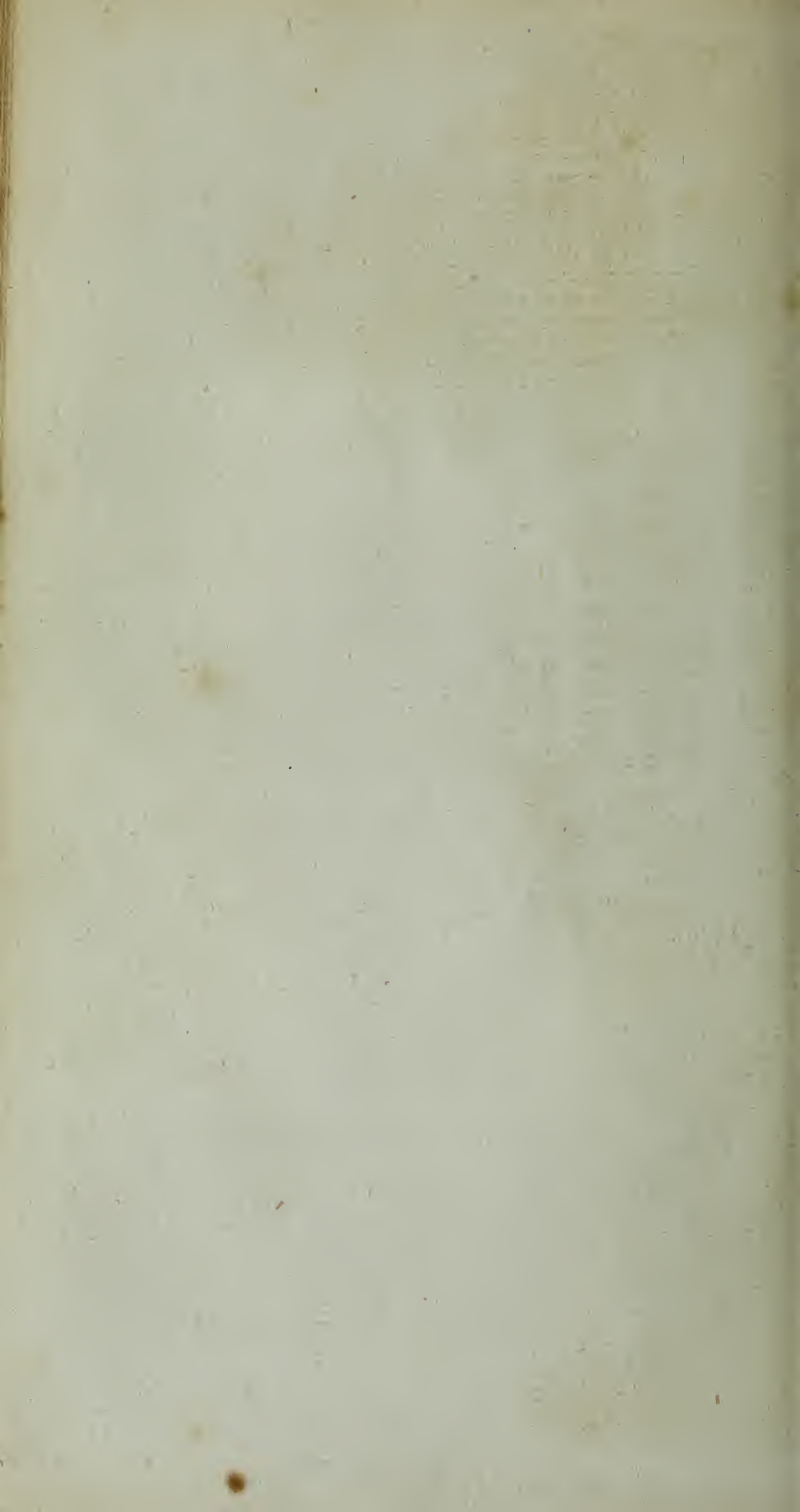












made part of a monastery, founded by Richard de Beauveris, Bishop of London, about the year 1118, for canons of the order of St. Augustine. The revenues of this monastery were very large, and there were two parks belonging to it. At the dissolution of the monasteries, this place was granted to the famous Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex. It afterwards became the property of Lord Darcy, who converted it into a seat for himself.

There are several handsome seats and handsome houses, belonging to persons of distinction at Walthamstow; the most remarkable of which was that of *Higham Hall*, pleasantly situated upon Higham Hill, a rising ground, about half a mile north from Clay-street, just above the river Lea, overlooking the counties of Middlesex and Hertfordshire, and commanding a most delightful and extensive prospect. It has been a magnificent and spacious fabric; and, in ancient times, when the Lords resided upon their royalties, no place could be more admirably situated than this mansion, erected at the top of the hill of Higham, and having within its view the whole extent of its jurisdiction; but there are now hardly any traces of its ancient grandeur remaining.

*Walthamstow* is a considerable village in this county, situated on the river Lea, about six miles from London. The greatest part of this parish, in Edward the Confessor's reign, belonged to Waltheof, a nobleman of great eminence, who submitted to William the Conqueror, and was thereupon restored to his honours and paternal estates. William also conferred on him the Earldoms of Northumberland, Northampton, and Huntingdon, and gave him his niece Judith in marriage: notwithstanding which, Waltheof engaging in a conspiracy to depose William, was beheaded at Winchester, about the year 1075.

The river here divides Essex from Middlesex as far as Lea-bridge.

Walthamstow church, which is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, is a large edifice, situated upon a hill, and consists of three isles; that on the north side, built by Sir George Monox, Knight, Alderman and Lord Mayor of London in the reign of Henry the Eighth, is called *Monox's Isle*; and that on the south side bears the name of *Thorne's Isle*, from a citizen



and merchant taylor of that name, who was probably at the expence of building it. In this church are a great number of monuments.

Sir George Monox also built alms-houses on the north side of the church-yard for thirteen poor people, eight men and five women; with an apartment for a free-school; and for their maintenance settled on trustees an estate in Mark-Lane, London — Mr. Henry Maynard, a merchant of London, was also a great benefactor to this parish.

Walthamstow contains several streets or hamlets, but which are not closely joined or connected together, but are situated as follows: Shanhall-street, an hundred yards west from the church; Hare-street, a quarter of a mile south-east; Woodford-street, half a mile east; and March-street, three quarters of a mile west of the church.

*Wansted* is a very pleasant village, at the distance of six miles from London. The parish of Wansted joins to that of Walthamstow. Wansted is in a delightful situation, the greatest part of it standing on a hill, from which is commanded a beautiful prospect of the city of London and its environs, the fine hills of Kent, the river Thames, and rich views of the neighbouring parishes.

It is supposed that there was here a Roman villa, or some little station; for in the year 1715, as Sir Richard Child's gardeners were digging holes for planting an avenue of trees in the park, on the south side of the lower part of the gardens, they discovered a tessellated Roman pavement. The owner would not permit it to be laid quite open; but by the fragments thrown up, they observed, that it consisted of small square tessellæ of brick of divers colours, from one inch to a quarter of an inch square. Round it there was a border of about a foot broad, composed of red dies about three quarters of an inch square; within which were several ornaments wove in wreaths, and in the middle the figure of a man riding, holding something in his right hand. The pavement was situated on a gentle gravelly ascent, towards the north; and, at a small distance from the south end of it, was a spring, or well, of fine water, now absorbed into a great pond. From this well the ground rose gently towards the south, till it came to an exact level, which reaches a great way. On the very brink of this level, and about three hundred yards directly south

south from the before said well and pavement, were the ruins of some brick foundations.—Some years afterwards, upon making further improvements, the workmen found several sherds of broken pots, or fragments of urns, of different kinds of earth, some brown, some white, &c. but all of a coarse clay; many pieces of bricks, which proved that there had been a building there: and many calcined human bones, teeth, &c. A silver medal, a copper one of the Emperor Valens, and another of copper, generally esteemed to be of the Constantine age, were likewise found here.—Smart Le-thieullier, Esq; was of opinion, that this was the mausoleum of some private family, whose villa perhaps stood on the more elevated ground where Wansted now stands.

The church here, which is dedicated to St. Mary, stands near Wansted House, and was new built, chiefly at the expence of the late Richard Earl Tylney. Among other monuments in this church, there is a very sumptuous one erected to the memory of Sir Josias Child, a very eminent merchant, and well known for his excellent *Treatise on Trade*. This gentleman purchased the manor of Wansted, from whom it came to his descendant, the present possessor, John Viscount Castlemain, and Earl of Tylney.

The manor of *Cannons Hall* or *Cann Hall*, lies about a mile south-west of Wansted church. It anciently belonged to the prior and canons of the Holy Trinity, in London. It is now the property of William Colgrove, Esq.

*Woodford* is eight miles from London, and derives its name from the ford in the wood, or forest, where now is Woodford Bridge. This was one of the seventeen lordships with which Earl Harold endowed his abbey of Waltham Holy Cross, and was confirmed to that monastery, with all its lands and appurtenances and liberties, by King Edward the Confessor, in his charter, in 1062. The custom of the manor of Woodford is *Borough English*, by which the youngest son inherits. The origin of this custom has been a subject of much dispute; but it appears to have prevailed greatly in the kingdom of the East Saxons. Dr. Plot has conjectured, that it was introduced by the lord of the manor's claiming the right of enjoying the bride, daughter of his tenant, on the wedding-night; therefore the villain, or slave, doubting whether the



eldest son was his own, made the youngest his heir. But as there seems not to be sufficient evidence that this ever was an established practice, the Doctor's conjecture has been supposed not to be well founded.

Woodford wells were formerly in repute, as purgative, and good for many disorders, but are now entirely neglected.

About a mile from Woodford is the parish of *Chingford*, in which there is an estate of twenty-four pounds per annum holden of the rector. Upon every alienation, the owner of the estate, with his wife, man-servant, and maid-servant, each single on a horse, come to the parsonage; where the owner does his homage, and pays his relief in the following manner: He blows three blasts with his horn, and carries a hawk on his fist, and his servant has a greyhound in a slip, both for the use of the rector for that day. He receives a chicken for his hawk, a peck of oats for his horse, and a loaf of bread for his greyhound. They all dine, after which the master blows three blasts with his horn, and they all depart.

*Chigwell* is a pleasant village, about ten miles from London. This parish, as well as the neighbouring ones, is most delightfully situated; on which account, and from its convenient distance, it is much frequented by persons from the metropolis, it being one of the most pleasing rides within the like distance. The village is neat and agreeable, and has good accommodations for travellers; but carries on no manufacture, it being rather a place for receiving those who are fond of short excursions into the country, than a place of much commerce.—From Chigwell Row is a fine view extending upwards of thirty miles, and comprehending a great part of the river Thames, bounded by the pleasant hills of Kent, by Danbury spire in Essex, by the forest of Henhault, and an exceeding rich country around.

In Chigwell church there is a fine large plate of brass, with the whole length portraiture of Samuel Harsnett, Archbishop of York, engraved thereon in a very curious manner. This prelate, who had been vicar of this parish, founded here two free-schools, one called the Grammar and the other the English school.—At the west end of the church is a wooden belfry, built of chesnut, containing five bells; and over the belfry is a handsome spire, shingled.

*The*

*The Forest of Henhault*, in this neighbourhood, is supposed to have been so named from its having been well stocked with deers from Henhault, in Germany. Within this forest stands the remarkable large oak called *Fair-lop*, measuring upwards of fifteen yards in bulk. It is not an over-tall tree, but is singularly beautiful and curious, on account of the boughs spreading from top to bottom in a regular circle, and being level underneath, about ten feet from the ground, so as to represent an umbrella. A custom prevailed among many of the Londoners, to come yearly to eat beans and bacon, dressed under the boughs of this tree, which are supposed to extend eighty feet from the body, all around. It at last became so remarkable, that a fair was held under it, called *Fair-lop Fair*; which fair some years ago was ordered to be discontinued, by Lord Tylney and the verdurer, on account of its being a nuisance; for besides the riots which frequently happened there, the deer suffered much.

*Lamborn* is a pleasant parish adjoining to Chigwell. The houses herein are scattered at a distance from each other, some of which are neat, and the residence of gentlemen of fortune.

The parish of *Kelvedon Hatch* adjoining to Navestock is but a small one. On a tomb-stone in the church here is a plate with the following inscription:

“ *Fratres in unum.*

“ Here lies Richard and Anthony Luther, Esqrs. so truly  
“ loving brothers, that they lived near forty years joint house-  
“ keepers together at Miles’s, without any accompt between  
“ them.”

The church at *Theydon Mount*, which is dedicated to St. Michael, is pleasantly situated. It was burnt by lightning, and was rebuilt by Sir William Smith, of brick, and tiled. In the chancel of this church are several costly monuments, the most ancient of which is that erected to the memory of Sir Thomas Smith, who was not only an able statesman, but one of the most learned men of the age in which he lived, and a great promoter of the study of the Greek language.

*Theydon Gernon* is a very pleasant parish, which lies upon the west side of Theydon Mount. It is frequently called *Cosper-sale*, from a capital seat about two miles north of the church.



church. The village is but small, and consists chiefly of a few shops, and houses of artificers. But this, with some of the neighbouring parishes, may with propriety be called *The Garden of Essex*, from the pleasing variety of hills and vales, the fertility of the soil, the goodness of the roads, the neatness of the buildings, and the many additional ornaments they receive from the number of noblemens and gentlemens seats with which they abound; insomuch that a traveller cannot pass through this part of the country without being struck with its beauty, and the variety of noble and pleasing prospects which in different places present themselves to his view.

At a small distance from hence is the parish of *Loughton*, which is about thirteen miles from London, and in a very healthy situation. The village is small and neat, but carries on little or no traffic.

The parish of *Loughton* was one of the seventeen lordships wherewith Earl Harold endowed his monastery of *Waltham*; and in that monastery it continued till the suppression, when it came to the crown. It is said that in 1688, the Princess of Denmark, afterwards Queen Anne, retired to *Loughton Hall*, when she saw how things were going on with her imprudent father. *Loughton church* is very agreeably situated, having a fine prospect all around it.

*West Waltham* or *Waltham Cross*, stands on the west side of the river *Lea*, in *Middlesex* and *Hertfordshire*. It is a great thoroughfare in the *Ware road*, and is about twelve miles from London. It has its name of *Cross*, from that erected here by order of King *Edward the First*, in memory of its being one of the resting places for the corpse of his Queen, when she was brought from the north to be interred at *Westminster*. That Princess's effigies are placed round the pillar with the arms of her consort, and those of her own, viz. *England*, *Castile*, *Leon*, and *Poitou*, which are still in part remaining, though greatly defaced.

*Epping-Forest*, which is a royal chace, and which reaches many miles from the town of *Epping* towards London, was anciently called *The Forest of Essex*, and then of *Waltham*, and was granted by *Edward the Confessor* to his favourite *Randolph Pepper-king*, afterwards called *Peverell*; who  
having

having a beautiful lady to his wife, William the Conqueror fell in love with her, and had a son by her, called William Peverell.

The parish of *South Weald* contains many handsome houses. The church stands on an hill, from whence is a fine prospect. It is an handsome building, consisting of two paces, supported in the middle by five pillars of the Tuscan order. At the west end there is a strong tower of considerable height, embattled, in which are five bells. This tower was built in the beginning of King Henry the Seventh's reign.

The Saxon word *Weald* signifies *Wood*, and this place is supposed to have been one of the first inhabited parts of Essex. — By the south side of Weald-hall Park there is a camp, inclosing about seventeen acres; it is circular, single ditched, and thought to have been a Roman summer camp, or *Castræ Exploratorum*. — There are horse races every year on Warley-common, which is at a little distance from Brentwood.

*Haverling-at-Bower* is about three miles from Romford, and is said to have derived its name from the following marvellous story, which may amuse our readers, though we presume but few of them will give credit to it. We are told, that as the church of Clavering, in this county, was consecrating, and was to be dedicated to Christ and St. John the Evangelist, King Edward the Confessor riding that way, alighted, out of devotion, to be present at the consecration. During the procession, a *fair old man* came to the King, and begged alms of him in the name of God and St. John the Evangelist. The King having nothing else to give, as his almoner was not at hand, took the ring from his finger, and gave it the poor man. Some years after, two English pilgrims having lost their way as they were travelling to the Holy Land, they saw a company clothed in white, with two lights carried before them; and behind them came a *fair ancient man*. The pilgrims joining them, the old man enquired who they were, and whence they came. After hearing their story, he brought them into a fine city, where was a room furnished with all manner of dainties. When they had well refreshed themselves, and rested there all night, the old man set them again in the right way; and at parting, he told them he was John the Evangelist; adding, as  
the



the legend goes on, " Say ye unto Edward your King, that I  
 " greet him well by the token that he gave to me this ring  
 " with his own hands at the hallowing of my church, which  
 " ring ye shall deliver him again. And say ye unto him,  
 " that he dispose his goods, for within six months he shall be in  
 " the joy of Heaven with me, where he shall have his reward  
 " for his chastity and for his good living." At their return  
 home the two pilgrims waited upon the King, who was then at  
 this bower, and delivered to him the message and the ring,  
 from which circumstance this village is said to have received  
 the name of *Have-ring*.

This relation, however ridiculous, gained so great credit in  
 that age, as to occasion the whole story to be wrought in basso  
 relievo in the chapel at Westminster, where Edward the Con-  
 fessor lies buried, on the back of the screen that divides it from  
 the altar. The statues of the King and the pilgrims are also  
 over the courts of King Bench and Common Pleas, in West-  
 minster Hall, and over the gate going into Dean's Yard. His  
 picture was also on the glass of the east window of the south  
 isle of Romford chapel, with two pilgrims, and under it,  
*Johannes per peregrino misit Regi Edwardo*. A good picture  
 of him is now on the glass of the chapel window of that  
 chapel, renewed in the year 1707. The ring pretended to  
 have been given by him, as above, to St. John, was deposited  
 among other reliques in his abbey at Westminster.

This was anciently a retiring place for several of our Saxon  
 Kings, particularly of Edward the Confessor, who took great  
 delight in it, on account of its gloomy and solitary aspect, it  
 being at that time woody, and therefore it suited well his pri-  
 vate devotions. This place has been very productive of ex-  
 traordinary stories; and accordingly the legend says, it abounded  
 so with warbling nightingales, that they disturbed King  
 Edward the Confessor in his devotions, insomuch that he ear-  
 nestly prayed for their removal; since which time, according  
 to many of the sage people of this neighbourhood, no night-  
 ingales have ever been heard to sing in the park, as in other  
 places; but that many were heard without the pales.

Near the remains of the royal house stands *Havering Chapel*,  
 dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. It is a small building,  
 of one pace with the chancel, the whole tiled.

Besides the place of Havering Bower, here was another at  
*Pirgo*, which belonged to the Queens of England, where they  
 resided

esided at their own conveniency, for perhaps during their widowhood, Havering being usually part of the Queen's jointure.

About four miles from Romford is the parish of *Cranham*, which is supposed to have derived its name of *Cranham* from a resort of cranes here, the hawking of which was an ancient sport. And if we were to judge from the bills of fare into which cranes came, and the price of provisions, remarked by our historians, in the time of King Edward the First, we must imagine the stomachs of the people of that fighting age to be of a strange tone; for when a goose sold for four-pence, a crane sold for twelve-pence; and King William Rufus is said to have turned off his major-domo, for setting before him a crane half roasted.

*Dagenham Breach* was made upwards of fifty years ago, by the Thames, which overflowed one thousand acres of rich land; but after near ten years inundation, during which the works were several times blown up, it was at last stopped by Captain Perry, who had been employed several years in the Czar of Muscovy's works at Veronitza; but the expence attending this amounted to more than forty thousand pounds.

The village of *Little Ilford* is three miles from Berking; it is but small, consisting only of one street, which on Sundays many citizens of London and others resort to for an airing; and the little traffic occasioned thereby is the chief support of its inhabitants.

Little Ilford church is small, but neat; and at the north-west corner of it the Lethieuller family have erected a very neat room, about fifteen feet square, separated from the church by an iron gate. It has a fire place, and every convenience to accommodate the family when they attend divine service. The pavement is of free-stone, and beneath it is the family vault. Along the north side of this room is a capital, supported by columns of the Doric order; it is ascended by two steps, and between the columns is a very neat altar-tomb of black and white marble, supporting a beautiful marble urn of various colours. This monument is in memory of John Lethieuller, Esq. There are several other monuments here to persons of



the same family, but the only one that we shall particularly mention, is that erected to the memory of Smart Lethieuller, Esq; a gentleman much distinguished for his skill in antiquities; and we shall insert the inscription on his tomb, because it is remarkable for propriety and elegance. It is as follows:

In Memory of  
 SMART LETHIEULLER, Esq;  
 A Gentleman of polite Literature and elegant Taste;  
 An Encourager of Arts and ingenious Artists;  
 A studious Promoter of literary Enquiries;  
 A Companion and a Friend of learned Men;  
 Judiciously versed in Science of Antiquity;  
 And richly possessed of the curious Productions of Nature.  
 But  
 Who modestly desired no other Inscription on his  
 Tomb, than what he had made the Rule of his Life;  
 To do justly,  
 To love Mercy,  
 And to walk humbly with God.  
 He was born Nov. 3, 1701.  
 And deceased without Issue Aug. 27, 1760.

The most elegant simplicity runs through every part of this church, which is so well calculated to inspire serious contemplation, that few edifices of the kind are equal to it.

*Leyton* is a straggling village by the river *Lea*, about six miles from London. There are several handsome houses in this parish, belonging to wealthy citizens and other gentlemen.

One part of this parish is called *Leyton Stone*, which is in a pleasant and healthy situation; and the number of inhabitants here being greatly increased, a chapel of ease has been built for their convenience.

It is somewhat singular that the parish of *Walthamstow* should have a piece of ground about fifty yards wide, which runs directly in a strait line through this parish.

Here seems to have been a Roman villa, or some summer camp or station; for between the manor-house and the canal, where the garden now is, in digging were found old foundations, with a great many Roman bricks, intermixed with others, and several medals; and in enlarging the horse-pond  
 huge

huge foundations were discovered six feet under ground ; and a large arched gate with mouldings, nine or ten feet high, and five or six broad, the top of which was also six feet under ground. The walls were four feet thick or more. A very large urn, with ashes and bones, were taken up in the church-yard, in digging a deep grave. Several urns, with ashes in them, have also been found on the south side of Blind-lane, near Rockholts, in digging for gravel.

There are several very handsome monuments in Leyton church and church-yard.—That indefatigable antiquarian Mr. John Strype, was vicar of this parish.—The famous Sir Thomas Roe, Ambassador to the Great Mogul, the Grand Signior, and several European Princes, in the reign of King James the First, was born in this parish. In this great man the accomplishments of the scholar, the gentleman, and the statesman, were eminently united. During his residence in the Mogul's court, he zealously promoted the trading interest of this kingdom, for which the East India Company is indebted to him to this day. In his embassy to the Grand Signior, he collected many valuable Greek and oriental manuscripts, which he presented to the Bodleian library, to which he left his valuable collection of coins. The fine Alexandrian manuscript of the Greek Bible was procured by his means.

*West Ham*, which joins to Leyton, is four miles distant from London. It includes *Stratford*, anciently surnamed *Langthorne*, and is parted from Middlesex on the south, and from St. Mary Stratford-le-Bow, by the river Lea, over which there are five bridges in this parish. Bow-bridge, which is one of them, received the name of *Bow*, or *Arched*, bridge, because it was the first arched stone bridge in the county. The occasion of its being built is thus related : The ancient road from this county to London was by *Old Ford*; that is, through the ford there without a bridge. But that passage being difficult and dangerous, and many persons losing their lives, or being thoroughly wetted, which happened to be the case with Maud, Queen to King Henry the First, she turned the road from Old Ford to the place where it is now, and made the causeways, and built the bridges at her own charge ; and for keeping them in repair, she gave to the abbess of Berking certain manors, and a mill called *Wiggan Mill*.



The parish of West Ham is divided into four wards, namely, *Church Ward*, *Stratford Langthorne*, *Plaistow Ward*, and that of *Upton*. Its situation is not high, nor yet very low, but in general healthy; and the lower part of Plaistow affords a beautiful view of the river Thames, and the county of Kent, for many miles.

This parish is divided from the county of Kent by the river Thames. From its vicinity to the metropolis, and from the conveniency which it has of water-carriage, a number of wealthy merchants, traders, and industrious artists have chosen it for their residence; by which means, of late years the buildings have been much increased, particularly by the addition of two small new-built hamlets, if they may be thus called, on the Forest side. These are *Maryland Point* and *The Gravel Pits*; one facing the road to Epping, and that to Chelmsford. *Maryland Point* is a cluster of houses near Stratford; the first of them were erected by a merchant, who had got a fortune in that colony, from whence they took their name.

*Stratford*, (that is, the street at the ford) is a very large and considerable hamlet in this parish; and distinguished from the other adjoining, Stratford at Bow, lying on the west side of Bow-bridge, in the county of Middlesex, by the appellation of *Langton*, or *Langthorne*.

*Plaistow Hamlet* lies south of the church, and *Upton* north of the same.

About half a mile south-south-west from the church, are the remains of *Stratford Abbey*, once a considerable monastery here, and part of the old gate of which is still standing. This monastery was founded about the year 1134, by William Montfichet, for the monks of the Cistercian order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and All Saints. Its demesnes in this parish comprehend one thousand five hundred acres.

West Ham church, which is dedicated to all All Saints, is large; both church and chancel having north and south isles. There are several monuments in it, two of which are ancient.

*East Ham* is situated rather low, and its soil is gravelly, except in the marshes. Several wealthy citizens and other gentlemen

gentlemen reside in it, on which account it has several good houses in it.

One of the most remarkable particulars here is, the spring called *Miller's Well*, the water of which is esteemed to be extremely good, and has not ever been known to be frozen, or to have varied in its height, either in summer or in winter.

A part of Kent, in the parish of Woolwich, lies on this side the river, and divides this parish from the Thames.

*Tilbury Fort*, which is in this county, opposite to Gravesend, is a regular fortification, planned by Sir Martin Beckman, chief engineer to Charles the Second, with bastions the largest of any in England. It has a double moat, the innermost of which is one hundred and eighty feet broad, with a good counterscarp, a covered way, ravelins and tenailles, and a platform, on which one hundred and six cannon are placed, from twenty-four to forty-six pounders each, besides smaller ones planted between them, and the bastions and curtains, also planted with guns; and here is a high tower, called *The Block House*, which is said to have been built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. On the land side are also two redoubts of brick; and there it is able to lay the whole level under water. The four proconsular ways made in Britain by the Romans crossed each other here. Great part of the land in this level, which is formed of those unhealthy marshes, called *The Three Hundreds*, is held by the farmers, cowkeepers, and grazing butchers of London, who generally stock them with Lincolnshire and Leicestershire weathers, which they buy in Smithfield, in September and October, and feed them here till Christmas or Candlemas; and this is what the butchers call right marsh mutton.

Near Chelmsford, and facing Moulsham Hall are six almshouses, which were founded by Sir Thomas Mildmay, Bart. and Anne his wife, for six poor people. And at a little distance from hence there was formerly an house of Dominican friars. The building was very strong, being a composition of brick, flint, and free-stone. The kitchen remained till within these few years, and was esteemed a great curiosity; the room being supported and decorated in the manner of the Theatre at Oxford. The site of it is now called *The Friars*.



In a field called *Long-stumps*, between Moulsham Hall and Gallywood Common, formerly stood a chapel, which belonged to the abbey of St. Osyth.

*Boreham Church* is an ancient edifice ; and there are here the remains of a fine monument in the Suffex chapel, which was erected to perpetuate the memory of the noble family of that name. There are three alabaster figures of Robert Radcliff, Henry Radcliff, and Thomas Radcliff, Earls of Suffex ; and in the vault, which is very neat, are twelve coffins, containing the remains of these noblemen, and others of the same family. Some of them have inscriptions on one side, and a star and garter on the other. Others are cast in a human shape, with eyes, nose, mouth, &c. This ancient chapel and monument were for many years in a ruinous state, it being a subject of dispute to whom it belonged to preserve and repair them. But Richard Hoare, Esq; having obtained a faculty to convert the chapel into a place of interment for his family, has repaired it for that purpose at a considerable expence.

In the church-yard is erected a mausoleum for the Waltham family, in imitation of the Temple of the Winds at Athens: It is built with white brick and stone. The remains of the late Lord Waltham are here deposited.

*Ingatestone Church* is a good brick edifice, and contains some handsome monuments in memory of the Petre family.

There is a manor in the parish of Margaretting named *Shenfield*, which is said to have been one of the houses of pleasure where King Henry the Eighth used to resort to his mistresses. The house lay in a bottom, had many large buildings about it, and was surrounded by a moat. It had a draw-bridge, at the extremity of which were two strong watch-towers, of brick ; and there was a chapel adjoining to the house. But most of the original buildings, if not all, are now pulled down, and it is become the habitation of a private gentleman.

Tradition says, that there was more than one place in the county of Essex to which King Henry the Eighth used occasionally to retire with his mistresses. At some distance from hence is the parish of Blackmore, which he is reported to have

have made use of for his amorous retreats. The manor-house of Blackmore is also called *Jericho*; and we are told, that when Harry chose to retreat from public business, and indulge himself in the embraces of his courtezans, the cant phrase among the courtiers was, "He was gone to Jericho." He is also said to have made use of Newland-Hall, in this county, for the same purpose. But, in truth, much more is said of Henry's mistresses by the traditionary reports of the people of Essex, than is to be met with in all our historians.

In the parish of *Black Notley*, which is at a little distance from Braintree, there is a handsome monument in the church-yard in memory of that celebrated naturalist, Mr. John Ray, which was erected at the expence of Henry Compton, Bishop of London. Mr. Ray was born at Black Notley, being the son of a blacksmith there, and was also interred there in 1706.

*Bocking* is one of the most considerable villages in the county of Essex: It consists chiefly of one street, in which the baize-trade is carried on to a very great amount. The church is a spacious building, situated upon an eminence. Here is also a large meeting-house, and another belonging to the Quakers. —An urn of old coins, mostly Vespasian's, was some time since found in the grounds belonging to High Garrer, in this parish.

In the parish of *Little Dunmow*, which is two miles from the town of Dunmow, there was formerly a priory. It stood in a delightful situation, but is now entirely decayed. In this priory were maintained a prior, and ten or eleven canons regular, of the order of St. Augustine.

Amongst the jocular tenures of England, none have been more talked of than the *Bacon at Dunmow*. It does not appear who instituted this custom, but it is generally supposed to be one of the family of Fitzwalter. The prior and canons were obliged to deliver the bacon to the person who took the following oath:

" You shall swear, by custom of confession,  
" That you ne'er made nuptial transgression;

" Nor

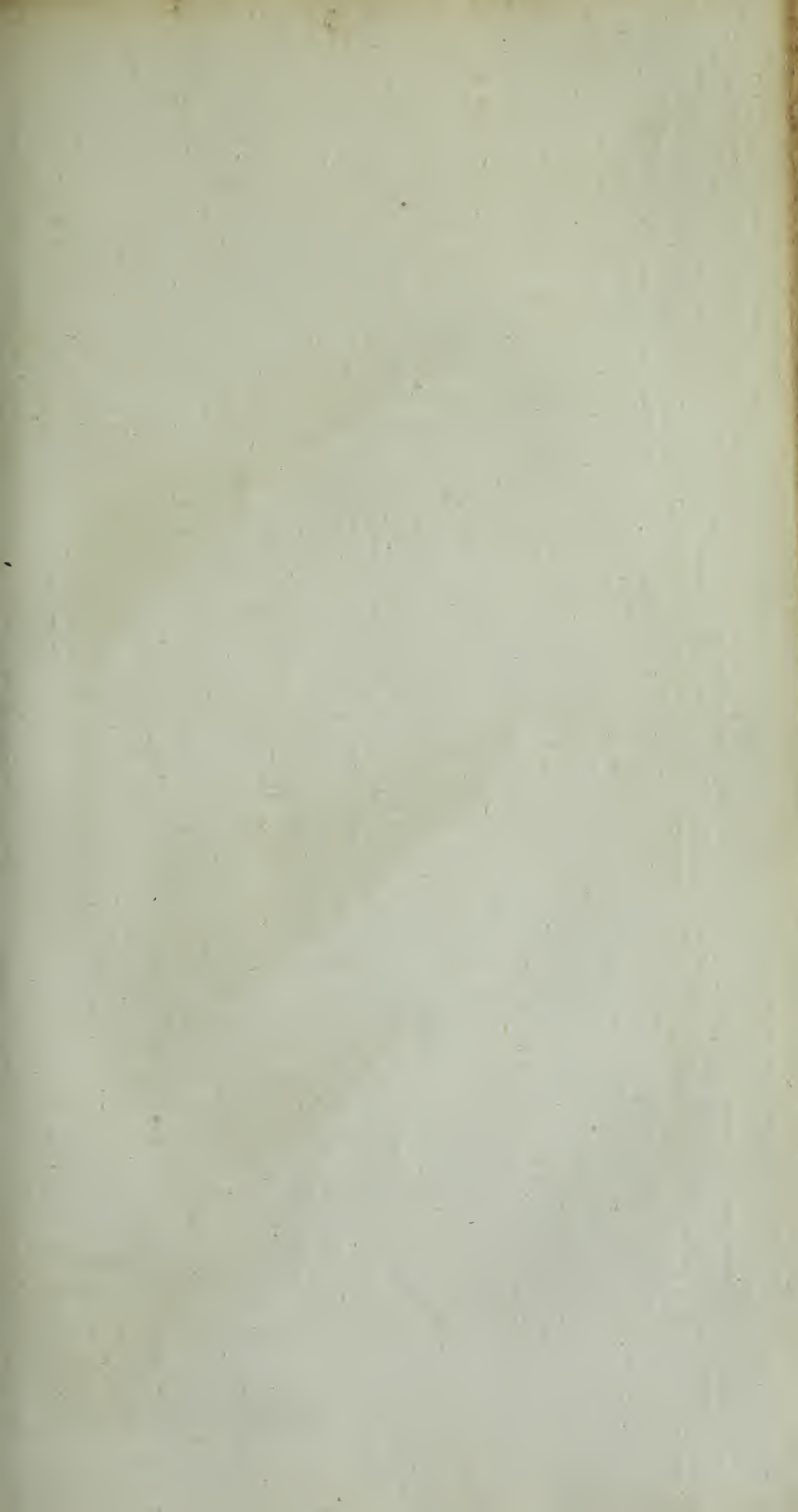


“ Nor since you were married man and wife,  
 “ By household brawls or contentious strife,  
 “ Or otherwise, in bed or at board,  
 “ Offended each other in deed or in word ;  
 “ Or since the parish clerk said Amen,  
 “ Wished yourselves unmarried agen ;  
 “ Or in a twelvemonth and a day  
 “ Repented not in thought any way,  
 “ But continued true in thought and desire,  
 “ As when you joined hands in holy quire ;  
 “ If to these conditions without all fear  
 “ Of your own accord you will freely swear,  
 “ A whole gammon of bacon you shall receive  
 “ And bear it hence with love and good leave.  
 “ For this is our custom at Dunmow well known,  
 “ Though the pleasure be ours, the bacon’s your own.”

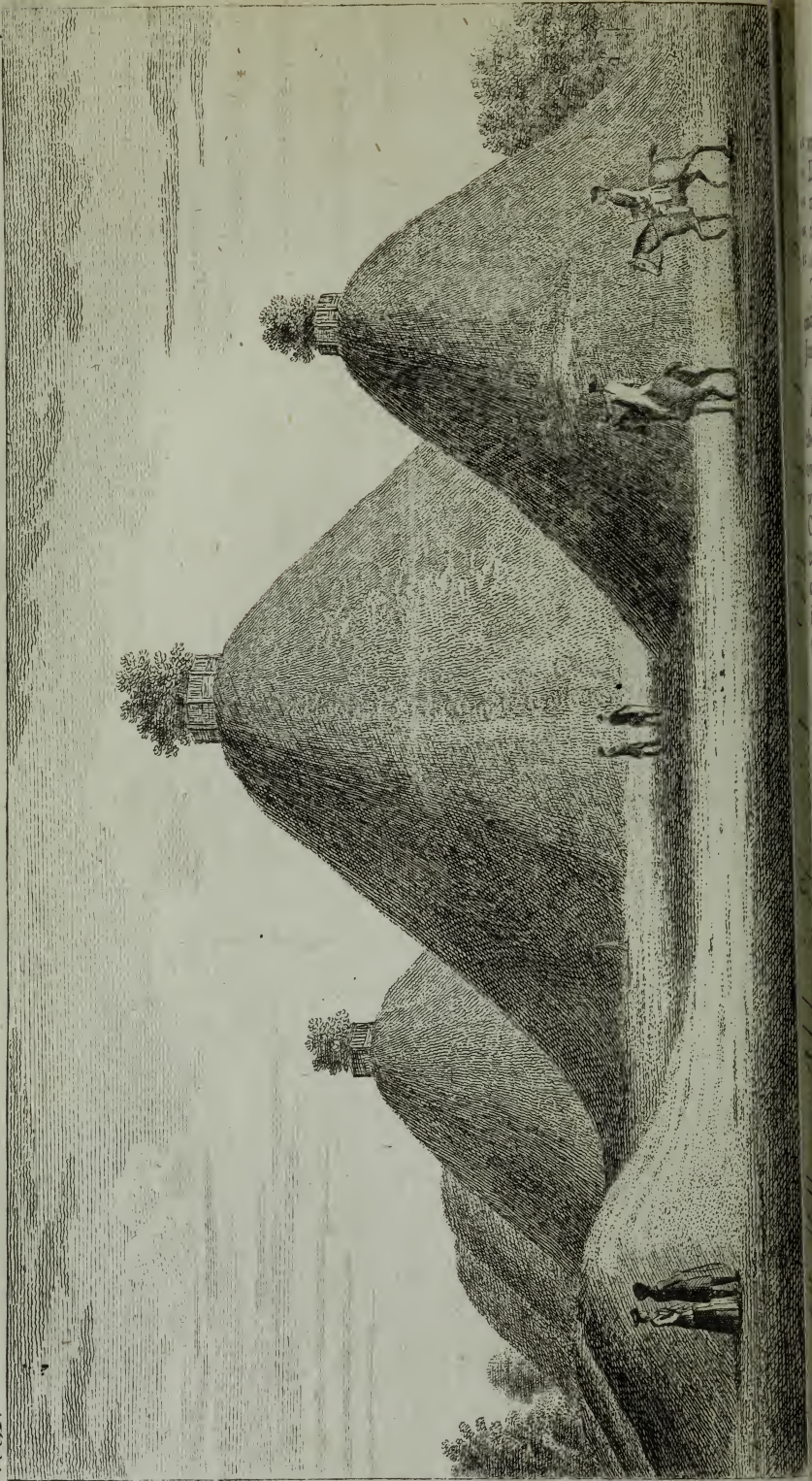
After this oath was taken, the claimant of the bacon was taken in a chair provided for the purpose, and still kept in the church, and carried first about the priory church-yard, and afterwards through the town, with all the priory brethren, his bacon being borne before him, and the town’s people attending with shouts and acclamations ; and in this manner he was conveyed home.

In the chartulary, or register-book of this priory, now preserved in the British Museum, there are entries and memorandums of persons who have at several times received the bacon, namely, Richard Wright, of Badeburgh, near Norwich, yeoman, in 1445. Samuel Fuller, of Little Easton, husbandman, in 1467. Thomas Fuller, of Coggeshall, in 1510.

Since the suppression of the priory this custom is still kept up, and the ceremony is performed at a court baron for this manor by the steward, of which the following are instances :  
 “ At a court-baron of Sir Thomas May, Knight, held,  
 “ 7 June, 1701, before Thomas Wheeler, Gent. steward, the  
 “ homage being *five fair ladies*, spinsters, namely, Elizabeth  
 “ Beaumont, Henrietta Beaumont, Annabella Beaumont,  
 “ Jane Beaumont, and Mary Wheeler ; they found, that  
 “ John Reynolds, of Hatfield Broad Oak, Gent. and Anne  
 “ his wife, and William Parsley, of Great Easton, butcher,  
 “ and his wife Jane, by means of their *quiet and peaceable*,  
 “ *tender and loving* cohabitation for the space of three years  
 “ last past and upwards, were fit and qualified persons to be  
 “ admitted by the court to receive the ancient and accustomed  
 “ oath,







“oath, whereby to entitle themselves to have the bacon of  
 “Dunmow delivered to them according to the custom of the  
 “manor. Accordingly, having taken the oath, kneeling on  
 “the two great stones near the church door, the bacon was  
 “delivered to each couple.”

The last who received it were John Shakeshanks, wool-comber, and Anne his wife, of Wethersfield, on the 20th of June, 1751.

At *Ashdon*, about three miles north-west of Saffron-Walden, there are four barrows, or pyramidal hills, which were erected by Canute the Dane, over the bodies of those who were killed in a battle which was fought here, and in which Canute totally defeated the army of Edmund Ironside, and took most of the nobility who attended him prisoners. One of these hills being dug into or opened, there were found, in a stone coffin, two bodies, one of which lay with his head towards the others feet; also two other stone coffins were found with pieces of bones in them, and many chains of iron, about the size of those belonging to horses bits.

At *Chesterford*, a village four miles north of Saffron-Walden, some years ago the ruins of a Roman city were discovered: the foundations of the walls take in a compass of about fifty acres; and the foundations of a Roman temple were not long since very visible.

In the parish of *Hadstock*, which joins to that of *Ashdon*, is a very ancient church, the north door of which is much adorned with thick bars of iron work, of an irregular form, underneath which is a sort of a skin, said to be that of a Danish king: it is nailed on with large nails.

There is a tradition about the church door of Copford parish, which is about five miles from Colchester, of which Mr. Newcourt give us the following account. He says, it was  
 “taken notice of in the year 1690, when an old man at Col-  
 “chester hearing Copford mentioned, said, that in his young  
 “time, he heard his master say, that he had read in an old  
 “history, that the church of Copford was robbed by the  
 “Danes, and their skins nailed to the doors; upon which,  
 “some gentlemen being curious, went thither, and found a



“ sort of tanned skin, thicker than parchment, which is supposed to be human skin, nailed to the door of the said church, underneath the said iron-work, some of which skin is still to be seen.”

The village of *Castle Hedingham* is a neat and healthy place, and there are three fairs held here, one on the 3d of May, another on the 23d of July, and the third on the 6th of December. Sir Harry Houghton has erected a strong bridge of brick here, consisting of three arches, at his own expence.

A religious house was founded in this parish, for black-veiled nuns, of the Benedictine order, by Alberic de Vere, the first Earl of Oxford. The nunnery-house is still in being, but converted into a farm-house, and most of the church or chapel belonging to it is still standing.

In the middle of the chancel of *Castle Hedingham* church is an handsome and curious marble tomb, containing the remains of John de Vere, the fifth Earl of Oxford of that name. There are also some other handsome monuments in the church.

The parish of *Hedingham Sible* joins to this, and in the wall of the south isle of the church there is part of a superb arch, which formerly contained a magnificent monument in memory of Sir John Hawkwood, who was a very remarkable person, and who was born here. He was the son of Gilbert Hawkwood, a tanner of this place, and was bound apprentice to a taylor in the city of London, where being pressed into the service of King Edward the Third, then about to make war in France, he behaved himself so gallantly, that he was first made a Captain, and then Knighted by that Prince. When the French war was at an end, he offered his service to the states of Florence, in which he signalized himself so much, that Barnaby Galeazo, Duke of Milan, gave him his daughter Domnia to wife, by whom he had a son, who was born in Italy, but naturalized and Knighted in the reign of Henry the Fourth. Sir John Hawkwood died at a very advanced age in 1394, and was buried in the cathedral church of Santa Maria Florida, at Florence, where that republic, out of gratitude to his memory and extraordinary deserts, have honoured him with a statue on horseback, and a noble monument.—

A manor

A manor in the parish of Sible Hedingham, called *Hawkswood's Manor*, derives its name from this eminent man.

At *Misfley Thorn*, the late Richard Rigby, Esq; (father of the present gentleman of the same name, who is well known in the political world) built a village of about thirty brick houses, convenient for tradesmen, and well inhabited. He also built several granaries, warehouses, a large malting office, and made good quays and coal-yards, and there is now a large trade carried on here.

There are three islands south-west of Harwich, called *Pewet*, *Horsey*, and *Holmes*, which however are separated from the main land, only by the winding of a stream, and the influx of the sea into that stream. Upon these islands there is found a sea-fowl, which, when fat, is very delicious food. South of these islands there are three villages, which are included within a liberty or lordship, anciently called *The Liberty of the Soke*, in which the Sheriff of the county has no power, and in which no writ can be executed but by the bailiff of the liberty, nor by him without the consent of the lord.

The parish of *St. Ofsyth* is twelve miles from Colchester. It derived its name from the lady *Osgyth*, or *Ofsyth*, who was obliged by her father, against her will, to marry Sighere, King of the East Angles. She found means, however, to prevent the marriage being consummated; and, in the absence of her husband, took the veil. He at length consented to her living in a state of celibacy, and gave her a village which was situated at this place, called *Chich*, or *Cice*, and permitted her to found here a church and a nunnery. But Ingua and Hubba, we are told, spoiled the nunnery, and caused her head to be cut off, at a fountain where she used to wash herself with her virgins. She was buried, it is said, before the door of the church erected by herself.

At the distance of five miles from Rochford is *Hadley*, or *Hadley ad Castrum*, as it has been stiled ever since the reign of King Henry the Third, when Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, built a castle here. The ruins still extant shew its ancient grandeur. It is near a mile south from the church, and about three quarters of a mile from the road, facing the Chan-



nel or Canvey Island. As it is situated on the brow of a steep hill, there is from thence a delightful prospect across the Thames into Kent. It is built of stone, almost of an oval form; the entrance is at the north west corner, between two towers, and there are also two towers at the south-east and north-east corners, which are embattled, and have loop holes on the sides. The walls in the bottom of the towers are nine feet thick, and the rest five feet; and on the north and south sides the walls are strengthened with buttresses. The cement or mortar, which is almost as hard as the stones themselves, hath in it a mixture of shells of sea-fish, &c. At the entrance, the earth lying very near the towers, a very deep ditch is cut behind them which runs along the north side of the castle. The ruins are now greatly over-grown with bushes.



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## GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

**T**HIS county is bounded by Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire, on the east; by Herefordshire and Monmouthshire on the west; by Worcestershire on the north; and by Wiltshire and Somersetshire on the south. It measures in length, in a south-west direction, about seventy miles; in breadth about forty; and is two hundred miles in circumference.

Though the air of this county is equally healthy throughout, yet it is in other respects very different; for the eastern part of it, which is called *Cotswold*, being a hilly country, the air is very sharp; but in the middle part, called *The Vale of Gloucester*, is soft and mild, even in winter; such indeed is the difference, that of Cotswold it is said, eight months in the year are winter, and the other four too cold for summer; and of the Vale, that eight months are summer, and the other four too warm for winter. Cotswold being thus exposed, was, heretofore, far from being remarkable for its fertility, and the corn was so slow in coming up, that, "as long a coming as Cotswold barley," is become a proverb of the county: the hills of Cotswold however afford excellent pasturage, and great numbers of sheep are fed upon them, whose wool is remarkably fine; the breed of sheep which produce the fine Spanish wool, is said to have been raised from some of these sheep, which were sent as a present by one of our Kings to a King of Spain. Of late, however, the land is so much improved, that the Cotswold farmers keep more than double the live stock they were used to do; and, with judicious management, the produce of an acre will sometimes equal that of a like quantity of land in the Vale, where the rents are double and treble the price, and the land will not admit of proportionable improvements.

The Vale of Gloucestershire lies chiefly on the south-east side of the river Severn, which gives life and spirit to the soil. For extent and fertility it cannot be exceeded, perhaps

not



not equalled in the kingdom. There are authentic proofs still subsisting that there were plantations of vines formerly in this Vale. The cheese called *Gloucester Cheese*, is made in this part of the county, the best of which is equal to any in England, Cheshire not excepted.

The Forest of Dean, which contains above thirty thousand acres, being twenty miles long and ten broad, was covered with wood, and was a harbour for robbers, especially along the banks of the Severn, in the reign of King Henry the Sixth, when an act of parliament was made on purpose to suppress them. The woods have since been reduced to narrower bounds, by clearing part of the ground, where many towns and villages have been built. The oaks that grow where the woods have been still preserved are reckoned the best in England; and from this forest most part of the timber formerly employed in ship-building was brought, which was so well known to the Spaniards, that when they fitted out their famous armada in 1558 to invade England, the people who had the direction of that expedition, were expressly ordered to destroy this forest, as the most speedy and effectual way to ruin our marine. On the other hand, to cultivate and preserve the wood in a sufficient part of this district has been the constant care of our legislature. Great part of it was enclosed by an act of parliament passed in the reign of King Charles the Second; and some time ago, many cottages which had been built in and near the woods were ordered to be pulled down, because the inhabitants damaged the trees, by cutting or lopping them for fuel.—In this part of the county there are also many rich mines of iron and coal, for the working of which several acts of parliament have passed; and at Taynton, a little village near Newent, a gold mine was discovered about the year 1700, of which a lease was granted to some refiners, who extracted some gold from the ore, but did not go on with the work, because the quantity of gold was so small as not always to answer the expence of the separation.—The King has a swanimote court here, as in all forests, to preserve the vert or venison, of which the verdurers are the judges, who are chosen by the freeholders of the county. The miners too have a court here, in which a steward, appointed by the constable of the forest, presides; and juries of miners, who have their particular laws and customs by which they are governed, determine all differences and disputes that arise  
between

between them.—The privileges of the forest are very extensive. The free miners claim a right by prescription of digging iron ore and coal in the forest, necessary to carry on their works, as well in the lands of private persons as in the King's soil.

This county produces a considerable quantity of corn, though not enough for its inhabitants; about eight thousand tons of excellent cheese annually, valued at upwards of two hundred thousand pounds, most of which is sent to London; besides cyder, perry, bacon, coals, and fish, particularly salmon, of which a large quantity is sent to London. So much admired is the cyder produced in the Forest of Dean, the best sort of which is called *Styre Cyder*, that competent judges have declared it to be the best in England; and Styre cyder has frequently been sold at twenty guineas the hogshead. The rivers, especially the Severn, afford great plenty of fish, abounding with salmon, lampreys, elvers, and fine eels.

There are several large rivers in this county, of which the principal are the Severn, the Wye, the Stroud, and the two Avons. The Severn, which is esteemed the second river in England, rises on the east side of a vast mountain called *Plyn Lymmon*, in the south-west part of Montgomeryshire, in Wales, from whence, by a variety of windings, it runs north-east, and enters Shropshire, where being joined by a great number of smaller streams, it runs through that county and Worcestershire, in the direction of south; it enters Gloucestershire at Tewkesbury, whence running south-west by the city of Gloucester it falls into that part of the western sea, called *The Bristol Channel*. The tide flows up the Severn as far as Tewkesbury, which is near seventy miles from the sea; and from Newnham town upon this river, upwards of fifty miles from the sea to its mouth, it has more the appearance of a sea than a river; the flood tide advances with such impetuosity, that in one swell it sometimes rises near four feet.—The Wye rises within half a mile of the source of the Severn, and running south-east, separates Radnorshire and Brecknockshire (two counties in Wales) from each other; it then passes through Herefordshire, and parting Monmouthshire from Gloucestershire, falls into the Severn near Chepstow.—The Stroud rises not far east from Painswick, and, running westward, falls into the Severn, about five miles south of the city of Gloucester. The water  
of



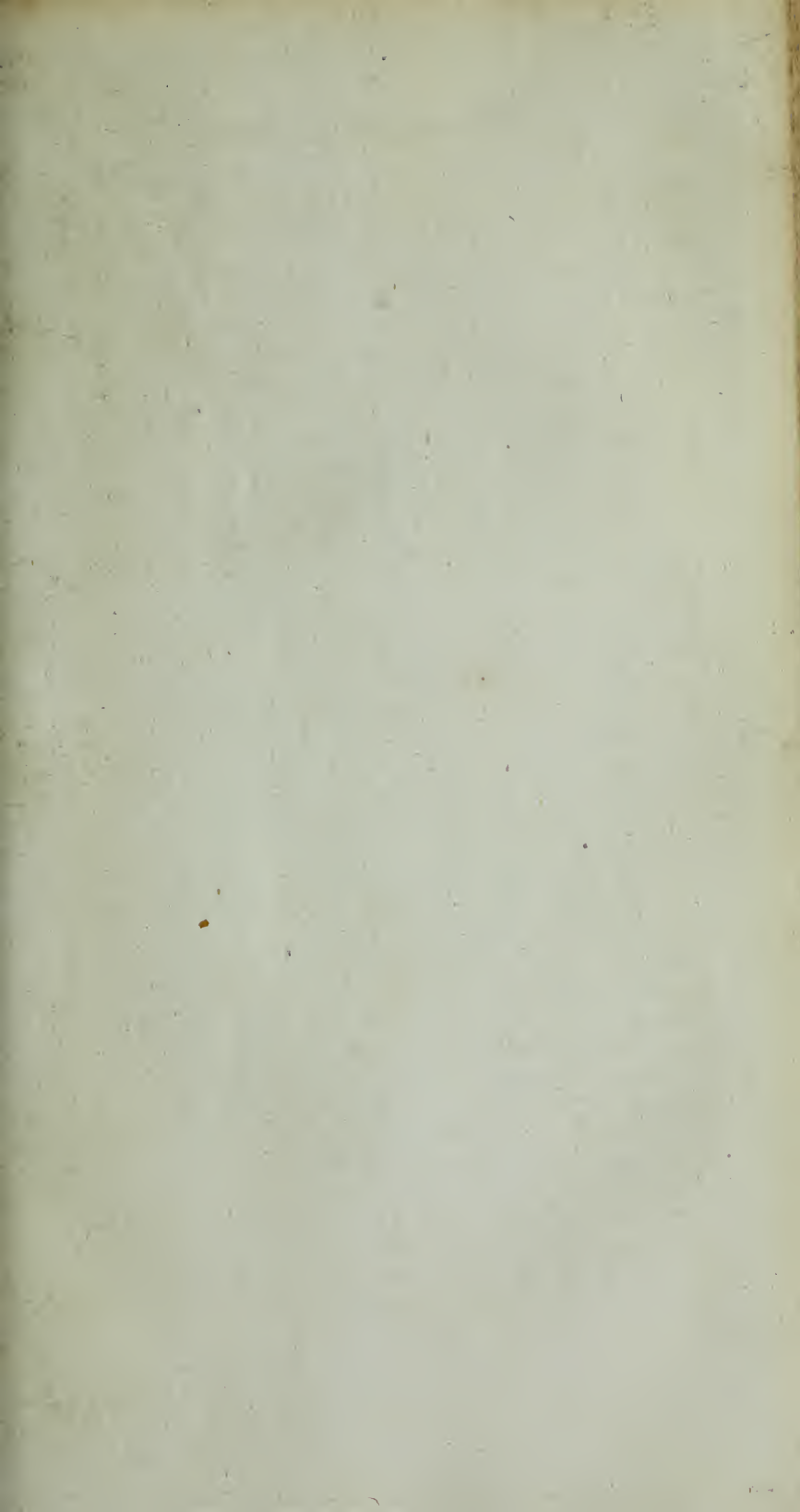
of this river is remarkably clear, and fixes the colours mixed with it for dying broadcloth, scarlet, or any grain colour, better than any other; for this reason several clothiers have settled along the banks for twenty miles together, and have erected a vast number of fulling mills upon it: of these clothiers some used formerly to make each a thousand pieces of cloth a year. No part of this river was navigable till the year 1730, when it was made so by act of parliament, quite from Stroud to its conflux with the Severn.—One of the rivers Avon rises in Northamptonshire, and running through Warwickshire, and separating Gloucestershire from Worcestershire, falls into the Severn near Tewkesbury.—The other Avon, distinguished by the name of *Avon West*, rises not far from Tetbury, near the borders of Wiltshire, and separating Gloucestershire from Somersetshire, falls into the Severn near Bristol.

This county is generally divided into three districts. The eastern part of the county, bordering upon Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire, is called *Cotefwold*; the middle part, the Vale of Gloucester; and the triangular part, included between the Wye, the Severn, and a small river called the *Leden*, is called *The Forest of Dean*.—The Vale of Gloucester manifestly derived its name from its situation, and the forest was probably called *The Forest of Dean*, from Dean, the principal town in the district; some have supposed the word *Dean*, to be a corruption of *Arden*, a name used by the ancient Gauls and Britons to signify a *wood*; and there is a wood in Warwickshire called *Arden* to this day.

This county is divided into thirty hundreds, and contains one city and twenty-eight market-towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury, is a diocese of itself, and contains two hundred and eighty-nine parishes.

The principal manufacture of this county is woollen cloth; and it is computed fifty thousand pieces of cloth are made yearly in this county, which being estimated at ten pounds a piece, the fine with the coarse, amounts to five hundred thousand pounds. The iron manufactory carried on in the Forest of Dean, is also very considerable, and employs a great number of hands. Pins, cards for the use of clothiers, heavy edge tools, and felt-hats are also made in this county in great perfection, besides many other articles of inferior consequence.

CITY.







## C I T Y.

The city of GLOUCESTER is one hundred and one miles from London, and stands on a pleasant hill, with houses on every descent, and is a clean well built town, with the Severn on one side, a branch of which brings ships to it. It is about three miles in circumference, and is beautified with a cathedral, besides five parish churches, and is exceedingly well provided with hospitals, particularly an excellent county infirmary, after the manner of those at London, Winchester, Bath, &c. It was anciently a Roman colony, and governed by a consul. Forging of iron seems to have been its manufacture so early as the time of William the Norman. King Henry the Eighth made it the see of a bishop, with a dean and six prebends; though Camden thinks it had that honour in the time of the Britons. Its castle, which was erected in the time of William the Norman, is very much decayed; part of it is leased out by the crown, and the rest serves for a prison, and is one of the best in England. The cathedral is an ancient but magnificent fabric, and has a tower, said to be one of the neatest and most curious pieces of architecture in England; and in this church are twelve chapels, adorned with the arms and monuments of many great persons, and the tombs of King Edward the Second, and of Robert Duke of Normandy, son of William the First. There is also a gallery over the east end of the choir, leading from one end of it to the other, which is deemed a great curiosity, as a whispering place; it is of a hexagonal form, consisting of six sides and six angles, and is twenty-five yards over, in the widest place: one of the sides is a window, yet if two persons go to the most distant parts and whisper, they will be perfectly heard by each other in their turns. This cathedral is a beautiful piece of architecture, and is remarkable for its bells, the largest of which weighs six thousand five hundred pounds, and requires eight men to ring her. The cloisters belonging to it are very beautiful. Here are abundance of crosses, and statues of our kings, some of whom kept their Christmas here, several market-houses supported with pillars, and large remains of monasteries, which were once so numerous, that it gave occasion to the monkish proverb, *As sure as God is in Gloucester*. Here is a barley-market, and an hand-



some hall for the assizes, called the Booth-Hall. It has a good stone bridge over the river, besides a quay, a wharf, and a custom-house; and under the bridge is a water engine to supply the town, though it is served with it also from Robin Hood's Well, to which there is a fine walk about two miles from the city.

Camden says that the famous Roman way called *Ermin-street*, which begins at St. David's, in Pembrokehire, and reaches to Southampton, passes through this city.—Sudmead in the neighbourhood is noted for horse-races.

The trade of this city was formerly very considerable, but it is greatly decayed since that of Bristol became so great; and pin-making is now one of its chief manufactures. It is governed by a steward, a mayor, twelve aldermen, and other officers. It has twelve incorporated companies, whose masters attend the mayor on all public occasions, with their streamers, &c. Here is also a charity-school. The citizens have erected the statues of Queen Anne and King George the First, in one of the high streets, both bigger than the life. This city gives the title of Duke to his Majesty's second brother.

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## MARKET TOWNS.

CIRENCESTER, commonly called CICESTER, took its name from having been a *cester*, or *castle*, upon a small river called the Churn, that falls into the Thames at Cricklade, in Wiltshire. It is distant from London ninety miles, is divided into seven wards, and by some thought to be the oldest, and to have formerly been the largest town in the county. King Henry the Fourth gave it a charter and several privileges, and Queen Elizabeth gave it another, by which it was governed by a steward and bailiff, and now is governed by two high constables and fourteen wardsmen, who are appointed yearly at the court leet; it is a post town, and maintains a stage coach to London. It had once three parish churches, but now has only one, which is large and beautiful, and in which are twenty-eight windows of painted glass, representing scripture history, and the history of several fathers, martyrs, and persecutors of the Christian church, and exhibiting the several religious orders of the church of Rome, from the Pope

Pope to the mendicant friar. Here is a free school and a charity school, with several hospitals and alms-houses. In this town is one of the greatest markets in the kingdom for wool and woollen manufactures, there having been some years no less than five thousand packs of wool brought hither from Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, and Lincolnshire, and sold to the clothiers of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. There is a great deal of travelling here from the north to the west of England.

Ancient coins have been dug up in and near this town, together with pillars and pavements, supposed to have been those of a temple and bath.

Cirencester races are held on North Cerney Down, four miles north of the town. The course is esteemed a very good one.

TEWKESBURY is situated on the conflux of the Severn with the Avon, that runs out of Warwickshire, and these rivers with the smaller streams of the Carron and the Swylliate, almost surround the town. It is distant from London one hundred and two miles, and had its first privileges from King Edward the Second; they were confirmed by several succeeding Kings, and the town was at length re-incorporated by James the First. It is governed by twenty-four burgesses, two of whom are chosen bailiffs yearly, who are the ruling magistrates, and have jurisdiction within the borough, exclusive of the justices of the peace for the county: This corporation was dissolved by proclamation of James the Second, but restored again by William the Third.

It is a large, beautiful, and populous town, consisting of three well built streets, and many lanes; it has a bridge over three of the four rivers that run by it, and a magnificent church, which is the largest in England that is neither collegiate nor cathedral; it is adorned with a stately tower, and contains many funeral monuments. Here is a free-school, besides an hospital, endowed with forty pounds a-year, by Mary, the Queen of King William the Third, to be paid out of the Exchequer, for the maintenance of thirteen poor people, and a reader who is appointed by the corporation. Near this town is a piece of ground called *The Ham*, which is a course for horse-races.



This town had formerly some share in the clothing business, but that has long been lost. Its chief trade at present is malting, stocking-frame-knitting, especially of cotton, and a little nailing. It was once famous for making mustard balls, from whence arose the proverb, "He looks as if he had lived on Tewkesbury mustard;" speaking of one of a sad, severe countenance: And Shakespear uses the simile "As thick as Tewkesbury mustard."—It sends two members to parliament.

CHELTENHAM is situated one hundred miles from London, almost due west, in a fine healthy clear air, and in a plentiful country. The church is a handsome old building, built in the form of a cross, having an high and elegant octagonal spire, which has lately been repaired. The minister of the place must be a fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, nominated by that society, and approved by the Earl of Gainsborough. He can hold the living but six years, unless re-elected, which has generally happened. The church-yard is one of the most beautiful in England, extending from east to west about three hundred feet, and is rendered particularly agreeable by its walks being shaded with double rows of lime-trees, which surround and cross it. It is now much frequented on account of its excellent mineral waters, which are said to have lately performed some surprising cures, which have greatly increased their reputation. There are here very handsome accommodations for those who drink the waters, as well as a variety of amusements, during the season, for the entertainment of genteel company.

In this town are an hospital, a free-school, and a charity-school, all founded in the year 1574, by Richard Pates, Esq.

Cheltenham is about a mile in length, and has lately been much improved and enlarged. The country about it is extremely pleasant, and the rides and walks sufficiently variegated. A great trade was formerly carried on here in malt, but it is now very inconsiderable; the only manufacture being that of cotton stockings, which have a great sale. The women and children of the poorer sort comb and spin woollen yarn for the clothiers at Stroud.

CAMPDEN is eighty-six miles from London, and is situated on the edge of Worcestershire, under the side of some hills.

All

All the Saxon Kings are said to have held a congress here in the year 689, to consult about war or peace with the Britons. This town is noted for the manufacture of stockings, and was incorporated by James the First. The church here contains some fine marble monuments, of which the most sumptuous, supported by twelve pillars, is erected to the memory of Sir John Baptist Hickes, Viscount Campden, who gave ten thousand pounds in his life-time to charitable uses, and was a great benefactor to the town. There are still left here some remains of a noble house which belonged to him, but the greater part of which was burnt down by the loyalists in the civil war, to prevent its being made a garrison for the army of the parliament. There is a grammar-school in this town, two charity schools, and other foundations for the benefit of the poor.

COLFORD, or COVARD, is a small town, one hundred and twenty-four miles from London, situated in the Forest of Dean, in the road from Gloucester to Monmouth.

FAIRFORD is eighty miles from London, and derives its name from its old ford over the river Coln, on which it has now two good bridges. It is chiefly noted for its church, which is famous throughout Europe for its excellent painted glass. The church has twenty eight large windows, on twenty of which are represented, in beautiful colours and exquisite drapery, proper attitudes and curious perspectives, the most striking passages of the Old and New Testament; and some of them so consummately finished, that Vandyke affirmed the pencil could not exceed them. The paintings were designed by that eminent Italian Albert Durer, and taken in a prize ship bound for Rome, by John Fons, Esq; then a merchant in London, who brought both glass and workmen into England; and having purchased this manor of Henry the Seventh, in 1493, founded and built this church for the sake of the glass, and proportioned the windows exactly to each history. The church is a beautiful pile, one hundred and twenty-five feet long, and fifty-five broad, consisting of a spacious body, two isles, three chancels, and a vestry, with a handsome and well adorned tower in the middle, supported by elegant fluted pillars. Two of the windows represent the persecutors



persecutors of the church, with devils over their heads; and in the two opposite windows are some of the Roman Emperors who were preservers of the church, with angels over them. In the sixteenth window is a piece of glass representing diamonds and rubies, reckoned of great value. In the fifteenth window appears Dives in Hell, and also a woman conveying thither in a wheel-barrow for scolding her husband. The lead of the windows is so admirably disposed, that a stranger will not easily discover any, as it is generally made to serve the darker shades. Ancient coins and urns have frequently been dug up about this town.

STANLEY LEONARD is one hundred and four miles from London, and derived its name from its having been a priory, dedicated to St. Leonard. There is a charity-school in this town.

PAINSWICH is one hundred miles from London, and is pleasantly situated in the best air in the county. Here is a large handsome church, and the woollen manufactory is carried on here.

STROUD is one hundred and one miles from London, and is situated on a hill, at the foot of which runs the river commonly called *Stroud Water*, famous for its peculiar quality in dying scarlet broad-cloth, and all other grain colours, in the best manner; for this reason many clothiers live near it; and for twenty miles on the banks of this river, mills and other conveniences are erected for fulling. The fleeces of the sheep fed near this town are superlatively good.

SODEBURY CHIPPING is distant from London one hundred and twelve miles, and is an ancient borough, originally governed by a bailiff, but in 1681 it was made a corporation, with a mayor, six aldermen, and twelve burgessees; it was again disincorporated by a proclamation of January 2, 1688. The bailiffs and burghers are still empowered to distribute eighty-eight cow-pastures to as many of the inhabitants, and eight acres of meadows for their own lives and those of their widows, and as they fall, to grant them again in the like manner. This town being a great thoroughfare in the road from Bristol to Cirencester and Oxfordshire, is well provided with large

large inns. Here is a spacious church, though it is but a chapel of ease to Old Sodbury, a village in the neighbourhood; here is also a free-school, and the greatest cheese-market in England, except Atherston on the Stour, in Warwickshire.

STOW ON THE WOULD, called in the records *Stow St. Edward*, is eighty-one miles from London. It stands so high, and is so exposed to the winds, that the inhabitants are said to have only one element, and that is air, there being neither wood, common, field, nor water belonging to the town. It has a church, which is a large building, with a high tower, and contains several monuments; it has also an hospital, alms-house, and free-schools, besides other charitable institutions, all well endowed, the poor here being very numerous. The fairs of the town are famous for hops, cheese, and especially sheep, of which it is said that twenty thousand were sold in one October fair.

NORTHLEECH, or NORTHLECHE, so called from its situation upon the river Leche, is eighty miles from London, and is governed by a bailiff and two constables. It has a neat church, and several alms-houses, and a good grammar-school, which is free to all the boys in the town, and endowed with eighty pounds a year by Hugh Westwold, Esq; who being afterwards reduced, is said to have applied to the trustees to be master of it, but was denied. By a decree of Chancery in the reign of King James the First, this school was settled on Queen's College, Oxford.

THORNBURY is situated two miles from the eastern bank of the Severn, on a rivulet that runs into it, and at the distance of one hundred and twenty miles from London. The town (which gives its name to the hundred) has a customary or titular mayor, twelve aldermen, who must previously have been mayors, and two constables. In the civil wars it was fortified for Charles the First, as a check upon the garrison of Gloucester. The church here is large, in form of a cathedral, with spacious isles on each side, together with a cross and a beautiful high tower at the west end. Here are four alms-houses and a free-school.



BERKELEY is distant from London one hundred and thirteen miles, and is an ancient borough, governed by a mayor and aldermen. It has a church, which is a large handsome building, and a charity-school; it has also a castle, where King Edward the Second was imprisoned, and the room in which he was confined is still to be seen. The manor in which this town lies is called in old records *The Honour of Berkeley*, and is one of the largest in England, most of the towns of Berkeley hundred, and many other places in the county, including near thirty parishes, depending upon it; and the lands that are held of it are worth thirty thousand pounds a year.

LETCHLADE takes its name from the piece of ground it stands upon, formerly called *The Lade*, and a small river that runs near it, called *The Lech*. It stands upon the river Thames, on the borders of Oxfordshire and Berkshire, at the distance of seventy-seven miles from London. The Thames, after having been formed by the several streams of the Lech, the Coln, the Churn, and the Isis, begins to be navigable at this town, and barges come to its quay to take in butter, cheese, and other goods for London, which renders this place not inconsiderable.

MARSHFIELD is one hundred and four miles from London, in the road to Bristol, and on the borders of Wiltshire. It is governed by a bailiff, and consists chiefly of one street of old buildings, near a mile long; it has a large church and an almshouse, with a chapel belonging to it, well endowed, for eight poor people. Here is also a charity-school, maintained by the lord of the manor. This town carries on a considerable trade in cloth and malt, and is famous for its cakes.

GREAT DEAN, or MICHAEL DEAN, is the principal town in the Forest of Dean, and is distant from London one hundred and sixteen miles. It consists chiefly of one street, and has a good church, with a handsome spire: its principal manufacture was formerly cloth, but now it is pins. The hills round this town abound with iron ore, and there are several furnaces for melting it, and forges for beating the iron into flats. The workmen are very industrious in discovering the beds of the old cinders, which not being fully exhausted of the metal, are purchased of the owners of the land at a good price,







price, and being burnt again in the furnaces afford better iron than the ore new dug from the mines.

WOTTON UNDER EDGE stands on a pleasant and fruitful eminence, at the distance of one hundred and eight miles from London. The chief magistrate, who is chosen yearly at the court-leet, is called a mayor, and is ever after an alderman. It is a pretty town, and has a handsome church, with several monuments in it of the family of Berkeley. There is at this place a free-school, and an alms-house for six poor men and six women. The town is supplied with water, which was brought hither at the expence of an Alderman of London, Hugh Perry, Esq.—Wotton has been long noted for making woollen cloth; and its parish is twelve miles in circuit.

NEWENT took its name from an inn called *The New Inn*, which was set up for the accommodation of passengers on their journey to and from Wales. It is situated on a small river, navigable by boats in the Forest of Dean, at the distance of one hundred and fourteen miles from London. It has a handsome church, three alms-houses, and two charity-schools.

DURSLEY is distant from London one hundred and seven miles, and is a corporation, governed by a bailiff and four constables. It is remarkable for a good manufactory of woollen cloth, and for a rock of stone without any chop or slit in it, of an incredible durance, yet soft in hewing, and called by the inhabitants *Puff Stone*. The walls built with it shew but little decay in five hundred years.

MINCHING HAMPTON took its name from an order of nuns at Caen, in Normandy, called *Minchings*, to whom it formerly belonged. It is distant from London ninety miles, and has a large church, built in the form of a cross.

MORTON IN MARSH is distant from London eighty-two miles, and within a mile of the town, in the great road from London to Worcester, are the four thire stones, where the counties of Gloucester, Warwick, Oxford, and Worcester, meet.



WICKWARE is distant from London one hundred and twelve miles. It is a very ancient corporation, governed by a mayor and aldermen; the mayor is an alderman ever after. The town is well watered by two brooks, over one of which is a handsome stone bridge. It has a free-school, and the neighbouring wastes afford it plenty of coal.

WINCHCOMB is distant ninety-three miles from London; it was anciently a county or sheriffdom of itself, and was a borough in the reign of Edward the Confessor. Here is an alms-house for twelve poor women. The inhabitants of this town planted tobacco to a very good account, till they were restrained in the twelfth of Charles the Second, after which the town by little and little decayed, and is now poor and inconsiderable.

TETBURY, situate between Sodbury Chipping and Cirencester, at the distance of ninety-nine miles from London, is a fine populous well built town, in a healthy air, and on a rising ground. The revenues of this town are managed by a bailiff, chosen yearly. Here is a free-school, and an alms-house for eight poor people; and in the middle of the town is a large market-house for the conveniency of the yarn trade, which is the chief article, and a small market-house for cheese, bacon, and other commodities. The Avon has its source in this town, and that river runs through Bath and Bristol into the Severn; and at the town's end there is a long and handsome bridge, built in 1775. But what chiefly merits attention is the elegant parish church, lately built here, and opened for divine service in 1781, which is formed in the true Gothic taste, and will give pleasure to every person of discernment. Water was so scarce here formerly in dry summers, as to cost eighteen pence a hoghead; but that inconvenience was in a great measure removed in 1749, by the Reverend Mr. Wight, then vicar of this place, who set on foot a subscription for sinking a well one hundred and four feet deep, which was carried into execution, and the attempt succeeded so well, that a spring was found almost sufficient for the use of the whole town. There are races held annually about a mile east of this town, which are much frequented. As a proof how remarkably healthy this town is, it may not be amiss to mention the most extraordinary instance of longevity to be produced in this county,

county, namely, of one Henry West, who, in the reign of James the First, resided at Upton, a hamlet in this parish, who lived to the age of one hundred and fifty-two years; and one of his descendants has a Bible in his possession, wherein it is written, that he had five wives; by four he had no children, but by the fifth he had ten; and lived to see a hundred grandchildren, to each of whom he gave a brass pot or kettle.

#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

Near *Cirencester* is the delightful seat of Earl Bathurst. The house does not contain any thing remarkable in its outward appearance, but within it is finished in the most delightful manner. This seat is distinguished by its extensive and elegant plantations, laid out and perfected in the life-time and under the particular direction of Allen Earl Bathurst, father to the present noble proprietor. The entrance to the park is at a lodge on the north side of the house, by a spacious gravel walk, lined on each side by a row of stately elms. At a small distance from the entrance, to the left, is an oblique prospect of the north-west front of the house, with a fine sweep of lawn before it, and a grove of lofty trees on each side; turning to the right the walk divides, one branch leads to the terrace, the other runs by the side of it in a serpentine direction above a mile in length, finely arched and shaded; at the end is a small building called *Pope's Seat*, where this great genius frequently retired when on a visit to his noble friend; there is a lawn before it, to the centre of which eight vistas are directed, terminating with the prospect of neighbouring churches and other agreeable objects; one of them a fine lofty column, in the midst of the deer park, on which is placed the statue of Queen Anne, larger than life; it is near a mile distant from the house, behind which stands the beautiful tower of the parish church of Cirencester, so directly in the centre of it, with their fronts parallel to each other, that an observer, at the pillar, might be easily induced to believe the tower to be part of the house, were it not of a different colour.

The terrace is sheltered on the north-east by a thick plantation of wood, with a border of shrubs and evergreens: it commands a distant prospect of the north of Wiltshire, and

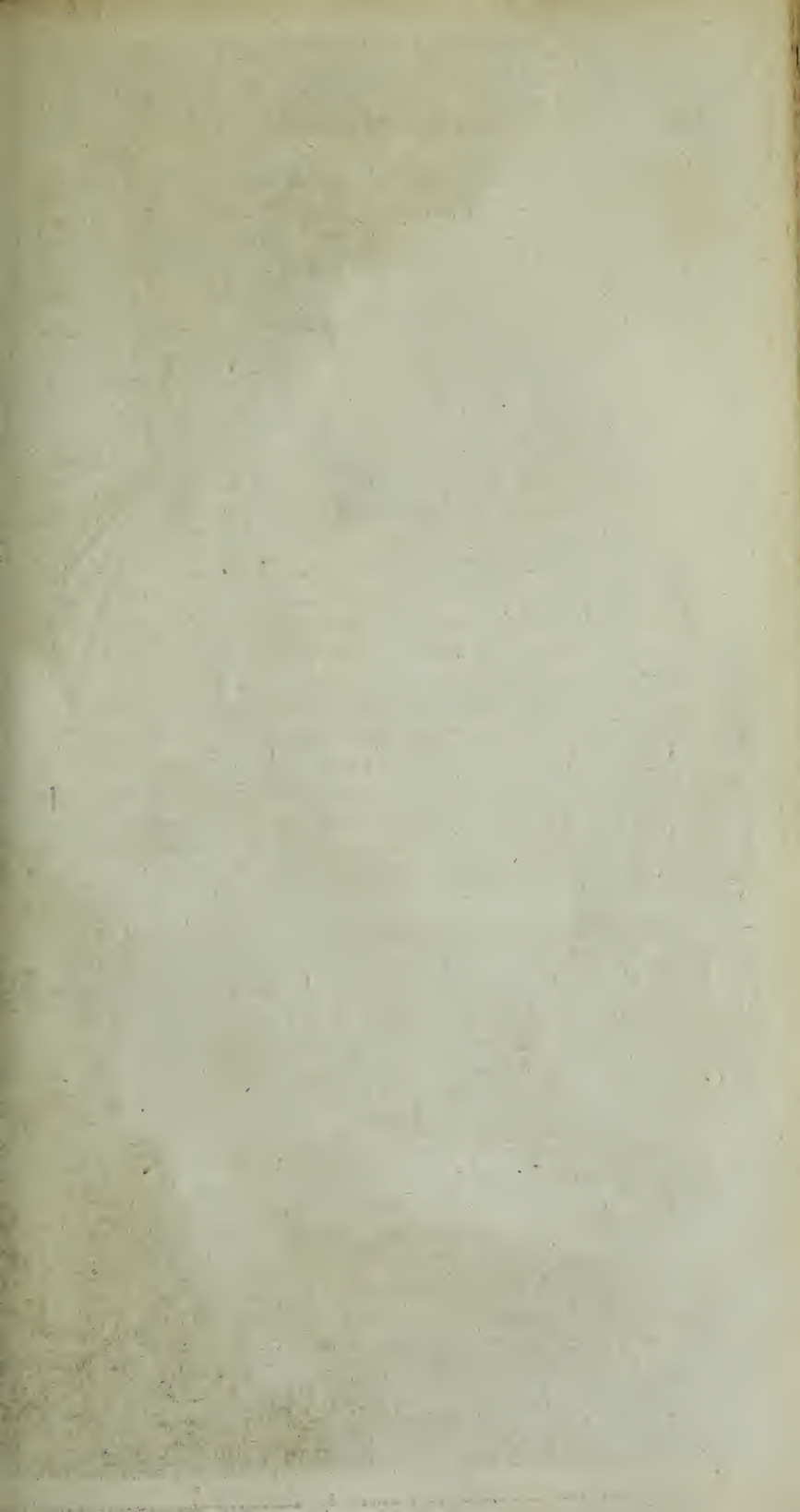


terminates at an handsome octagonal building, about a mile from the house. In the middle of the terrace, at a large pair of gates, (a communication between the deer and lodge parks) is seen a large lake of water a little to the right of the house, having the appearance of a considerable river, but is only a pleasing deception produced by planting clumps of trees, to conceal the extremities of the lake; and was necessary, from the sparing hand with which nature has dealt its favours, as to that element, to this place, there not being, perhaps, a perennial spring to be found within it. The eye is no where offended with the appearance of bare walls, nor can it judge of the extent of the park, as the country about it is taken into view, over fosses and concealed boundaries, purposely made where they have the best effect.

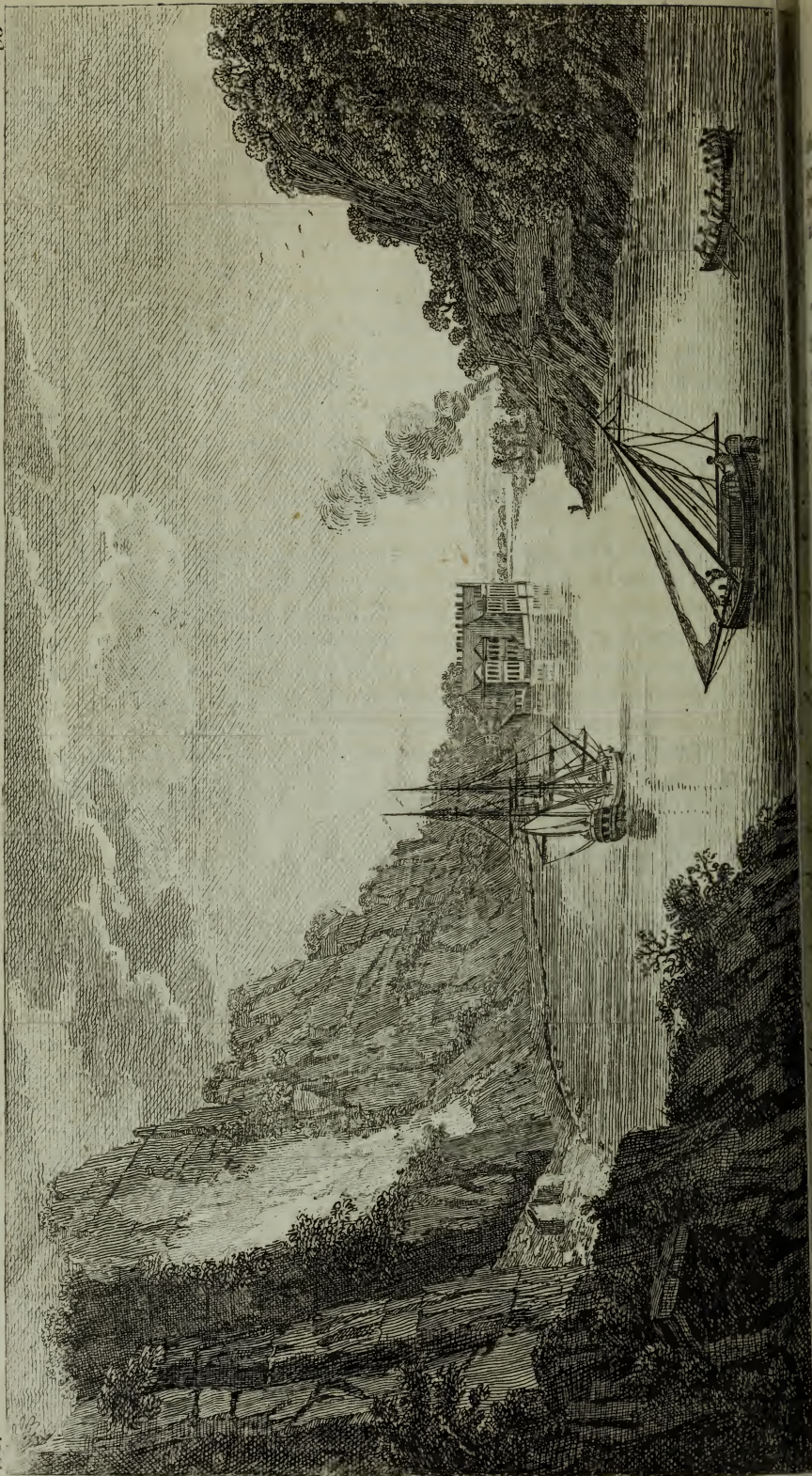
To the westward of this park are the lodge, park, and Oakley woods, which deserve particular notice. Near the middle of them, on a rising ground, is the point from which, like so many radii, ten cuts or ridings issue; the largest, about fifty yards wide, has the lofty tower of Cirencester to terminate the view; others directed to neighbouring country churches, clumps of trees, and various distant objects, produce an admirable effect. The truffle is a vegetable production, found in sufficient abundance in these woods.—Concealed as it were in the woods, is *Alfred's Hall*, a building that is an excellent imitation of antiquity, with a bowling green, and many beautiful lawns and agreeable walks about it.

*Badmington Magna*, about three miles from Chipping Sodbury, is the seat of the Duke of Beaufort. The mansion-house is very noble; and here are large parks, pleasant walks, and elegant gardens, decorated with a great variety of fountains. Henry, one of the late Dukes, made such additions to it, that it is thought one of the completest seats in the kingdom; and when King William the Third passed this way, he said to the Duke, that he did not wonder that he never came to court, since he had so stately a palace of his own to keep *his* court in.

Near *Gloucester* is the elegant seat of Sir John Guise, to which belongs a noble park, well stocked with deer; and from a hill here is a most agreeable view of the course of the river Severn, with its beautiful windings and turnings for  
above









above twenty miles, whilst the whole city of Gloucester appears below as only a diminutive village. The whole prospect from this hill, which is exceedingly romantic, is terminated by a majestic range of mountains.

*Southam* is a large tything, in the parish of Cleeve, wherein Thomas Baghot Delabere, Esq; who is lord of the manor, has a seat and a very fine estate. The house is one of the greatest curiosities in the county; it is a low building in the stile of the age of Henry the Fourth. The ancestor of this family, Richard Dalabar, came into England with William the Conqueror; and Sir Richard Dalabar, fifth in descent from the above, being present at the battle of Cressy, in the twentieth year of the reign of Edward the Third, 1347, acquired great honour by rescuing Edward the Black Prince when in eminent danger, and was by him presented with the present crest to the family arms, which is five ostrich feathers issuing from a ducal coronet.

Near *Gloucester* is the elegant seat of Thomas Heywood, Esq; and also that of Charles Barrow, Esq. *Hardwicke*, near Gloucester, is the seat of the Earl of Hardwicke. At *Quedgley* is the seat of Mr. Hayward, and at *Hayman* that of Mr. Coke, both in the neighbourhood of Gloucester. At *Cowberley*, eight miles from Gloucester, is the ancient seat of the Howes. At *Stowel*, thirteen miles from Gloucester, is the seat of the Earl of Stafford. *Berkeley Castle* is the seat of the Earl of Berkeley. *Stoke Lodge*, near Bristol, is the seat of Norborne Berkeley, Esq. At *Course Court*, near Tewkesbury, is the seat of the Earl of Coventry; at *Kempsford*, near Lechlade, that of Lord Weymouth; at *Sandywell*, near Cheltenham, that of the Earl of Hereford; at *High Meadows*, near Monmouth, that of Lord Gage; at *Stoke Bishop*, that of Sir Robert Cann; and near *Fairford*, that of the late James Lambe, Esq; the gardens and wilderness belonging to which are laid out in a modern and most elegant taste.

On the bank of the river Avon, near Bristol, is a very high and steep rock, called *St. Vincent's Rock*; and on the opposite bank is the county of Somerset. There are other rocks of an equal size, which, with the river flowing below them, afford a very striking romantic prospect, which is heightened by the ships



ships and other vessels that are continually passing between them to and from Bristol. In St. Vincent's Rock is found a kind of spars, commonly called *Bristol Stones*, which, before the composition called *French PASTE* was invented, were prized for their lustre, which came nearer to that of a diamond than any thing then known.

About half a mile between the Severn and Bristol, there is a pit in a rock, whence lead or ore was formerly dug, called *Pen Park Hole*. The descent is narrow, in form of a tunnel, being about two yards wide, and nearly forty deep. Having passed through the rock, it opens into a cave seventy-five yards long, forty-one broad, and nineteen high. In this cave there is a pool of sweet water, twenty-seven yards long, twelve broad, and five and a half deep.

*The Forest of Kingswood*, near Bristol, contains about five hundred acres, consisting of coal-mines. The houses here are very compact, as in a market-town; and the cloth manufacture has made it pretty populous. On the edge of this forest, near the bank of the Avon, about a mile from Bristol, are the famous works for smelting copper.

At *Woodchester*, a village near Stanley Leonard, a curious Roman pavement of mosaic work was discovered in the year 1772. It is of a considerable extent, and represents birds and beasts in the natural colours, besides a variety of other devices, beautifully executed.

At *Cromball*, a village between Wickware and Thornbury, was found some years ago another pavement of the same kind, eighteen feet and a half long, and near fifteen feet and a half broad, composed of cubical stones, of beautiful colours, strongly cemented.

*Beverstone Castle*, about a mile north-east of Tetbury, was built in the reign of Edward the Third, by Thomas Earl of Berkeley, out of the ransom of the prisoners he took at the battle of Poitiers, under the Black Prince.

At *Thornbury* are still to be seen the foundations of a magnificent castle, begun, but never finished, by Edward, Duke  
of

of Bucks, who was beheaded in the reign of King Henry the Eighth.

*Oldbury*, upon the river Severn, and near Thornbury, was a Roman station; and Antoninus says, that here was the *trajectus* or passage over the river Severn. In this place are two large Roman camps.

At *Alveston*, not far from Oldbury, is a large round camp, on the edge of a hill, from whence there is a pleasant prospect of the Severn. Near the camp is a large barrow, in which were found several stone coffins with bones in them.

At a place called *Castle Hill*, near Alveston, is another camp still to be seen, being an oblong square with a single ditch.

*Aust* is situated on a craggy cliff, on the bank of the Severn. The ferry over the Severn here being found very inconvenient, there is another two miles lower, which is reckoned safer. Aust has a neat chapel, with a high tower at the west end, adorned with pinnacles.

*Puckle Church*, six miles from Gloucester, was the residence of several Saxon Kings, the remains of whose buildings are still visible. The church is pretty large, and has several good monuments.

Star stones, like cockles and oysters; and serpentine stones and scallops, curiously figured, are found about the Avon and on the hills near Aldersey; and at Lessington, near Gloucester, are also found the star stones, so called from their point resembling the figure of a star. They are of a greyish colour, and move about for a considerable time when put into vinegar.

Near *Pips Elm Turnpike*, which is about four miles from Cheltenham, is an oak, said to be eighteen yards in circumference.

In the hamlet of *Barrow*, in the parish of Boddington, about the same distance from Cheltenham, is a little sugar-loaf hill, which from its resemblance to a tumulus, gave name to  
the



the hamlet.—A gentleman who lives in the parish affirms, that from the top of this hill, in a clear day, there is a distinct view of thirty-six parish churches.

From *Cleeve Hill*, called also *Cleeve Cloud*, are visible the remains of a large double entrenchment, called *The Camps*, extending three hundred and fifty yards along the summit of the rock, in the form of a crescent, and inaccessible on every side but the front. The views from this place, in a clear day, are past description; the ascent from the foot of *Cleeve Cloud* to the top of the eminence being six hundred and thirty feet perpendicular. It is in the parish of Bishop's Cleeve.

*Widcombe* is seven miles from Cheltenham, and six from Gloucester. From a vista upon the hill, not a mile from the house of Howe Hicks, Esq; which stands in the centre of the valley, is a fine bird's-eye view of the subjacent vale and the river Severn. To the left are seen part of the Forest of Dean, and the conic mountain near Abergavenny, in Monmouthshire. In front the blue hills of Malvern, in Worcestershire, with the Welch mountains, at a great distance behind them: And to the right is a view of Tewkesbury, and of the city of Worcester, near thirty miles distant.—Howe Hicks, Esq; the lord of the manor, is descended from Sir Baptist Hicks.

*Birdlip* and *Crickley Hills*, are nearly of the same height, the top of the first being about one thousand three hundred and fifty feet above the water of the Severn at Gloucester, and on a level with a great part of the Cotswold country.

On the *Cotswold* is a customary meeting at Whitsuntide, vulgarly called an *Ale*, or *Whitsun Ale*, resorted to by numbers of young people. Two persons are chosen previous to the meeting to be lord and lady of the Ale or Yule, who dress as suitably as they can to those characters: a large barn or other building is fitted up with seats, &c. for the lord's hall. Here they assemble to dance and regale in the best manner their circumstances and the place will afford, and each man treats his girl with a ribbon or favour. The lord and lady, attended by the steward, tword, purse and mace bearer, with their several

veral badges of office, honour the hall with their presence; they have likewise, in their suit a page or train-bearer, and a jester, dressed in a party-coloured jacket. The lord's music, consisting of a tabor and pipe, is employed to conduct the dance.—Companies of morrice-dancers, attended by the jester and tabor and pipe, go about the country on Monday and Tuesday in Whitsun week, and collect sums towards defraying the expences of the yule.—All the figures of the lord, &c. of the yule, handsomely represented in basso relievo, stand in the north wall of the nave of Cirencester church, which vouches for the antiquity of the custom; and as on any of these occasions they erect a may-pole, it is a sign that it had its rise in Druidism.—The mace is made of silk, finely plaited with ribbons on the top, and filled with spices and perfumes for such of the company to smell to as desire it.





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## H A M P S H I R E.

**T**HIS county is bounded by Dorsetshire and Wiltshire on the west, by Berkshire on the north, by Surry and Sussex on the east, and by the English Channel on the south. It extends sixty-four miles from south to north, thirty-six from west to east, and is (exclusive of the Isle of Wight) one hundred and fifty miles in circumference.

The chief rivers of this county are the Avon, the Test, and the Itching.—The Avon rises in Wiltshire, and passes through Salisbury, where it begins to be navigable; it enters Hampshire at Charford, a village near Fordingbridge, and runs southward by Ringwood, to Christchurch, near which it receives the Stour, a considerable river from Dorchester, and falls into the English Channel.—The Test, or Tese, called also the Anton, rises in the north part of Hampshire, and running southward, forms several islands at Stockbridge, and then passing by Romsey, it falls into an arm of the sea, which reaches several miles up the country, and is called Southampton Bay.—The Itching, called also the Alre, rises at Chilton Candover, a village near Alresford, and from thence runs south-west to Winchester, and from that city directly south, till it falls into Southampton Bay, having been made navigable from Winchester to Southampton in the time of William the Norman.—Hampshire is abundantly supplied with sea and river fish.

The air of this county is for the most part pure and healthy, especially upon the downs, which cross the country from east to west, dividing it nearly into equal parts; and it is observed, that the vapours in the low grounds that are next to the sea, are not so pernicious as in other counties. The hilly parts are barren, and fit only for sheep; but the lower grounds produce a great quantity of grain, particularly wheat and barley. In the breed of horned cattle here there is nothing particular; but in sheep and hogs this county excels most. The sheep are remarkably fine, both in their flesh and in

in their wool; and as the hogs are never put into styes, but supplied with great plenty of acorns, the bacon is by far the best in England. Hampshire is also particularly famous for its honey, of which it is said to produce the best and the worst in Britain; the honey collected upon the heath is reckoned the worst, and that of the champaign country the best. Game of all kinds is plenty in Hampshire; it has more wood than any other county in England, especially oak, and the greatest part of the English navy is built and repaired with the timber of this county.

Hampshire (exclusive of the Isle of Wight) is divided into thirty-nine hundreds, and has one city and twenty market-towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Winchester, and contains two hundred and fifty-three parishes. Its chief manufacture is kerseys and cloth, in which a good foreign trade is carried on, from the many ports and harbours with which it abounds.

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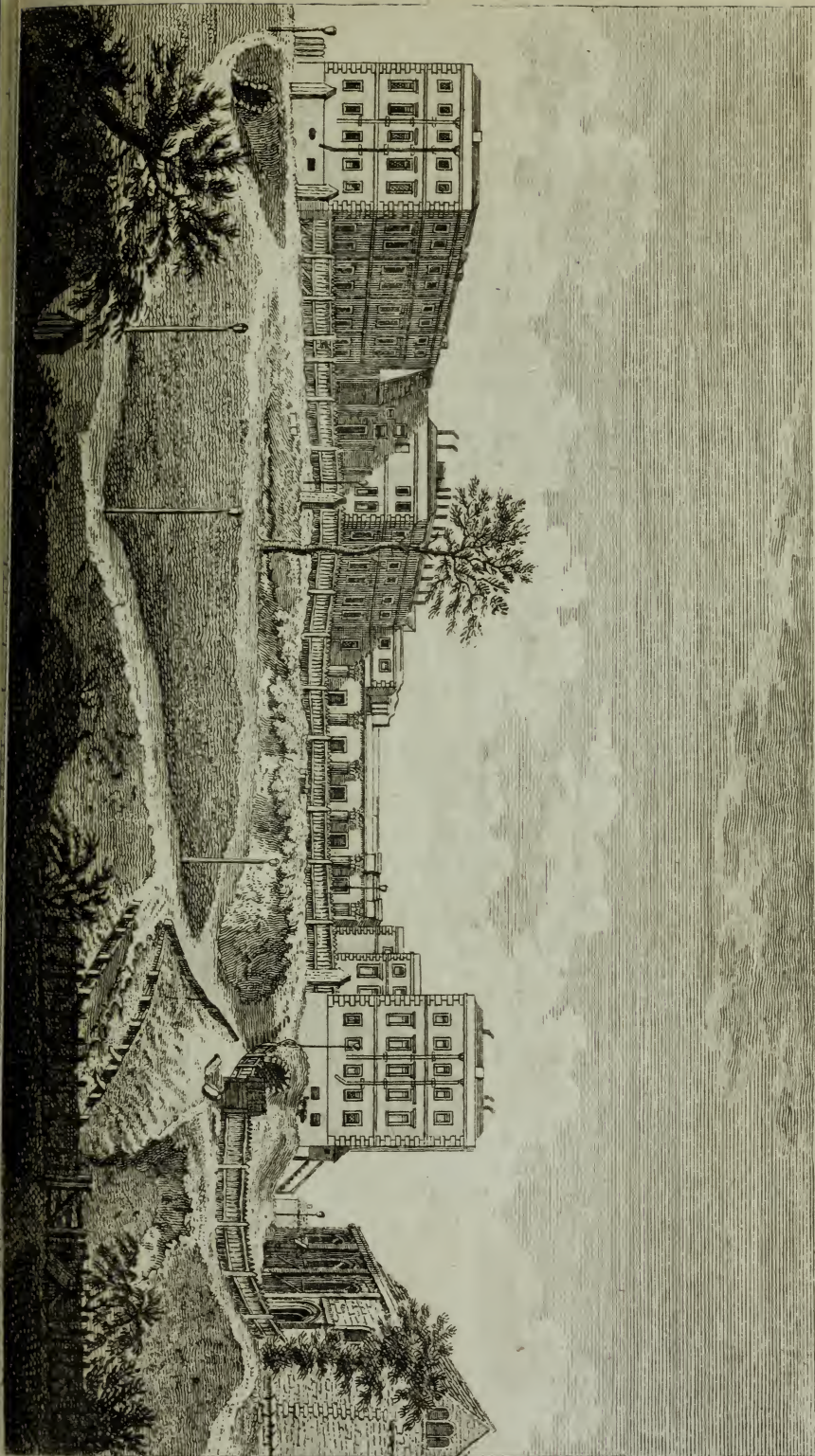
### C I T Y.

The city of WINCHESTER is sixty-seven miles from London, and is supposed to have been built nine hundred years before the Christian æra, and to have been the metropolis of Belgæ, and is therefore called *Venta Belgarum*, both by Ptolemy and Antoninus. In it the Romans had looms to weave cloth for the Emperors and their army, and King Athelstan granted it the privilege of six mints for the coinage of money. Near the west gate of the cathedral, there is still the remains of an old wall, very thick, with several windows in it, built of small flints, cemented as hard as stone, and supposed to have been a Roman work.—On a hill near this city, called *St. Catharine's Hill*, there are the traces of a camp; and on the side of the west gate, there was a castle, where the West Saxon Kings are supposed to have kept their court: in the castle hall, which is supported by marble pillars, is now the town hall, in which a round table is still preserved, called *King Arthur's Round Table*: it consists of one piece of wood, and is said to be above one thousand two hundred years old; it has some illegible Saxon characters upon it, which are said to be the names of twenty-four Knights with whom King Arthur used to carouse, and who were called *Knights of the Round Table*.

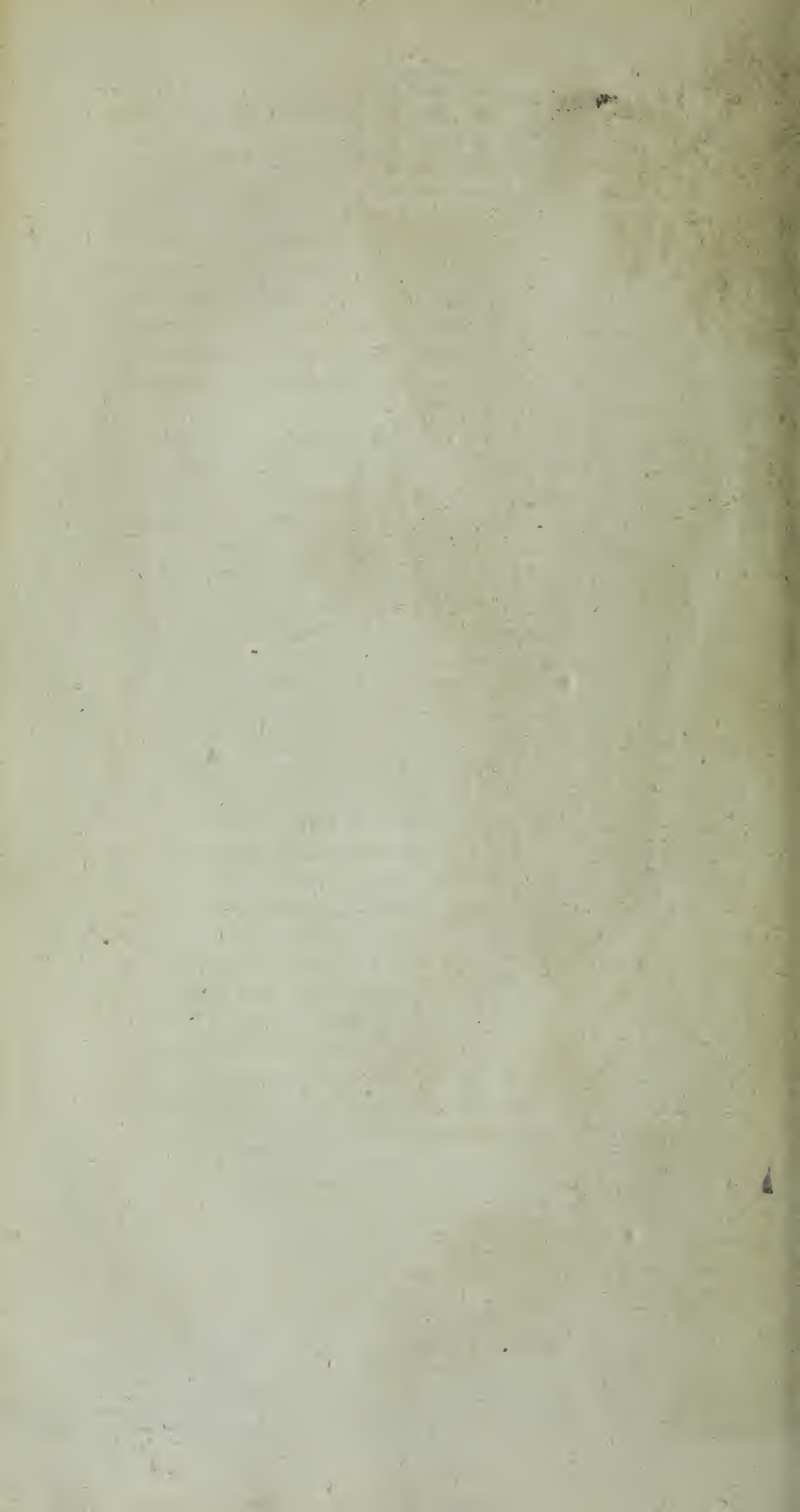


Winchester is governed, according to a charter of Queen Elizabeth, by a mayor, a high steward, a recorder, an unlimited number of aldermen, out of whom are chosen six justices, two coroners, two bailiffs, twenty-four common-councilmen, a town-clerk, four constables, and four serjeants at mace. It is about a mile and half in compass, and almost surrounded with a wall built of flint, having six gates in it, with suburbs leading to each from the adjacent country. The buildings in general are mean, but the streets are broad and clean; there is also a great deal of void ground within the walls, some part of which is laid into gardens, that are supplied upon occasion with water from little canals on each side of the High-street. In this street is a guildhall, which was rebuilt some years ago, and the statue of Queen Anne set up in the front of it. In this hall are held two courts of record, on every Friday and Saturday. At the east gate of this city there is an hospital, dedicated to St. John, in the wall of which hospital the mayor and bailiffs give their public entertainments. At one end is the picture of King Charles the Second, by Sir Peter Lely; and at the other a large table of all the bailiffs and mayors of Winchester from the year 1184; and here are also tables of benefactions to this city, during the Saxon reigns, and from Henry the Second to Charles the Second. On the west side of this city, King Charles the Second set Sir Christopher Wren upon building a royal palace, the situation being extremely fine for such a purpose. The building was almost completed, but the King dying before it was finished, it was neglected, so that now nothing remains of it but the shell. The south side of this palace measures two hundred and sixteen feet, and the west front three hundred and twenty-six.

The episcopal palace in this city was built by Bishop Blois, in the time of King Stephen. It was almost surrounded by the river Itching, and was adorned and fortified with several turrets. It was demolished by the Parliament army in the reign of King Charles the First, but was rebuilt by Bishop Morley in the reign of Charles the Second, and fitted up by Dr. Trelawney, the succeeding Bishop. The see of Winchester is one of the richest in the kingdom, and was first founded by Kinegulse, a King of the Mercians, whose son translated the see of Dorchester hither in 663; and although the diocese of Sherborne was taken out of this see by King  
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Ina, yet it became afterwards so rich, that when Edward the Third would have preferred its Bishop, Edendon, his favourite, to the see of Canterbury, he refused it, saying, that "though Canterbury was the highest rack, Winchester was the best manger." There are some privileges and immunities appendant to this see, obtained by William of Wickham, when he was Bishop of it in the reign of Edward the Third, such that the Bishops of Winchester should be prelates of the most noble order of the Garter, and Chancellors to the Archbishops of Canterbury.

Winchester had formerly no less than thirty-two parish churches, of which, at present, six only remain. The cathedral is a large and venerable fabric, begun by Bishop Walkelin about 1070, and finished by William of Wickham, of whom there is a statue in a nich over the great window, opposite the choir. Instead of a steeple or spire, this church has only a small tower, with a flat covering, as if the top of it had fallen away, and it had been covered in haste to keep out the rain. The length of this cathedral from east to west is five hundred and sixty-five feet, including a chapel at the east end, called *Our Lady's Chapel*, which is fifty-four feet long; and the breadth of the body and cross isles eighty-seven feet; the choir is one hundred and thirty-six feet long, and forty broad; the length of the great cross isle is about one hundred and eighty-six feet, and the tower in the middle is one hundred and fifty feet high; the nave, or western body of the church, is above three hundred feet long, and is reckoned the most spacious in England. The roof of the choir is adorned with the coats of arms of the Saxon and Norman Kings, the gift of Bishop Fox. The front of this church was erected in the time of the Saxons; it is of black marble, and of a square figure, and is supported by a plain stone pedestal; the sides are ornamented with sculptures in basso relievo, representing the miracles of some saint belonging to this church. The ascent to the choir is by eight steps, at the top of which are two copper statues finely cast, one of James the First on the right hand, and the other of Charles the First on the left. The Bishop's throne is the gift of Bishop Trelawney; the pediment of it is adorned with a mitre; and the arms of the see are supported by columns of the Corinthian order. The stalls of the Deans and Prebendaries are adorned with gilt spire-work, before which stands an eagle with its wings expanded,



panded, on a brass pedestal. The ascent of the altar is of marble steps; and the pavement is very curious, being inlaid with marble of different colours, and forming a variety of figures. The altar-piece, which is by much the noblest in England, is the gift of Bishop Morley; it consists of a lofty canopy of wood work, projecting over the communion table like a curtain, with gilt festoons hanging down from it, and other ornaments. The communion rail is neat, and on each side of the altar are stone vases, with golden flames issuing out to the roof of the church. The great east window is remarkable for the fine paintings upon the glass, representing several saints and bishops of this church; it is still entire, so also is the west window, which is of painted glass, though inferior to the other. In this cathedral several of our Saxon Kings were buried, whose bones were collected by Bishop Fox, and put into six gilded coffins, which he placed upon a wall on the south side of the choir. Here also lies the marble coffin of William Rufus, which being opened by the soldiers in the civil wars under Charles the First, they found on his thumb a gold ring, adorned with a ruby. Bishop Langton built a neat chapel on the south side of Our Lady's Chapel, in this cathedral, in the middle of which he lies interred, under a stately marble tomb; and Bishop Fox, who lies buried on the south side of the high altar, has a fine monument erected over him. Here are several other pompous monuments, among which is that of William of Wickham, which is of white marble richly gilt; it was erected by himself about thirteen years before his death, in the body of the church, and is adorned with the ensigns of the order of the Garter, of which he was the first prelate, joined with his episcopal robes, all painted in their proper colours. Here is also a very fine monument over the Earl of Portland, who was Lord High Treasurer of England in the reign of Charles the First. This monument consists of a statue of the Earl, in copper, at full length, armed, with his head raised on three cushions of the same metal. On the south side of the nave, is a marble statue of Sir John Clobery, who, when he was only a private centinel, had a good estate given him, and was raised to the dignity of Knighthood, by Charles the Second, for his fidelity when he was employed as a messenger between General Monk and the King's friends, relative to the Restoration. The clergy of this city have pleasant and elegant lodgings in the  
close

close belonging to this cathedral; the Deanery in particular is a very handsome building with large gardens, which are very pleasant, but are subject to be overflowed by the river which runs through the middle of them.

The great Roman highway leads from this city to Alton, and thence, as it is supposed, to London. The river Itching was made navigable for barges from this city to Southampton in the reign of William the Norman: and the city and neighbourhood abounds with people of fortune, though it has neither trade nor manufacture that deserves notice.

Near the Bishop's palace is the college of St. Mary, commonly called *Winchester College*, the foundation of which was laid in 1387, by William of Wickham, and it was finished in 1393. By his charter of foundation he appointed a custos or warden, seventy scholars, students in grammar, ten perpetual chaplains, now called fellows, three other chaplains, three clerks, a schoolmaster, an usher, an organist, and sixteen choristers, who, with their tenants, were freed for ever from all taxes. The allowance to the wardens, masters, and fellows, is very considerable, and they have handsome apartments adjoining the college. The college consists of two large courts, in which are the school, a chapel, and lodgings for the master and scholars; and beyond the courts there is a large cloister, with some ground enclosed for the scholars to play in. Upon the glass of one of the chapel windows there are excellent paintings, and in the middle of the cloister is a library; the building is of stone, and well contrived to prevent any accident by fire. Over the door of the school is an excellent statue of the founder, made by Mr. Cibber. Many great and learned men have been educated at this school, where, after a certain time, the scholars have exhibitions, if they are inclined to study in the New College at Oxford, founded by the same benefactor.

There is also here a magnificent hospital, called *The Hospital of the Holy Cross*. The church of this hospital is in form of a cross, and has a large square tower. By the constitution of the founder, every traveller that knocks at the door of this house in his way, may claim the relief of a manchet of white bread and a cup of beer, of which a good quantity is set apart daily, to be given away, and what is left distributed to other poor, but none of it is kept to the next day. The revenues of this hospital were to be appropriated to the maintenance



tenance of a master and thirty pensioners, called fellows or brothers; for these handsome apartments were allotted, but the number is now reduced to fourteen, though the master has an appointment of eight hundred pounds a year. The pensioners wear black gowns, go twice a day to prayers, and have two hot meals a day, except in Lent, when they have bread, butter, cheese, and beer, and twelve shillings in money, to buy what other provisions they chuse. These pensioners used formerly to be decayed gentlemen, but of late they are decayed tradesmen, put in at the pleasure of the master.

An infirmary was lately established in this town by voluntary subscription procured chiefly by the Rev. Dr. Alured Clarke: and in the north quarter of it, a part of an old monastery is still standing, now called *Hide House*, where some Roman Catholics reside, and have a chapel. Here are also three charity schools, two of them supported by a subscription of two hundred and twenty pounds a year, of which one is for fifty boys, and the other for thirty girls; the third, which is supported by the bounty of a single person, is for teaching two hundred and fifty boys. In the cathedral church-yard there is a college erected and endowed by Bishop Morley, in 1672, for ten widows of clergymen. The plains and downs about this city, which continue with very few interfections of rivers or vallies for above fifty miles, render it very pleasant to those who love an open situation and extensive prospects.

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## M A R K E T - T O W N S.

PORTSMOUTH derives its name from its situation at the port or mouth of a creek that runs up a part of the coast, which at high water is surrounded by the sea, and is therefore called *Portsea Island*. This island is a flat fertile country, about sixteen miles in circumference, joined to the main land by a stone-bridge of one arch, called *Ports-Bridge*, three miles and a half from Portsmouth, where there is a small garrison; the land in this island is esteemed as good as any in the kingdom: there are several very good farms on it, consisting chiefly of arable land, some meadow and pasture; these hardly ever fail of yielding very plentiful crops.

Portsmouth

Portsmouth is a handsome borough-town, seventy-three miles from London, consisting of four principal streets. These are crossed at different distances by several others, all in general spacious, airy, and well disposed. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, a town-clerk, and burgessees without limitation. It was first incorporated by King Richard the First, on the 2d of May, 1194, in the fifth year of his reign; who granted a fair or mart for fifteen days, to begin on St. Peter's day, the 29th of June; a weekly market on Thursday; and other immunities; but by the alteration of the stile, the fair now begins on the 10th of July. Two more market days have been since added, viz. Tuesday and Saturday; the latter being now by much the largest. The corporation have had many charters since, from succeeding Kings, confirming their privileges; the last of which was given by Charles the First, and this they now enjoy; he also granted them several additional privileges. There is a very neat town-hall here, which stands in the middle of the High-street, where is held a court of record every Tuesday, (except at Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide,) in which any person may be held to bail for a debt not under forty shillings. There are two sessions of the peace held here in the year, viz. within a month after Easter and Michaelmas.

This borough sends two members to parliament, and hath done so ever since 1298, the twenty-sixth year of the reign of King Edward the First.

In the reign of King Richard the Second, when that Prince was on very bad terms with his subjects, the French took the opportunity of landing here, and burnt the town, after plundering the inhabitants of their most valuable effects. A few years after they made a second attempt to land, but the town being rebuilt, the inhabitants fitted out a fleet, gave them battle, and took all their ships, after a very desperate engagement, in which only nine of the enemy escaped with life, who having gained the shore in a boat, were immediately taken prisoners.—The English, elated with success, attacked the French on their own coast, sailed up the river Seine, burnt and sunk many of the enemy's ships, and returned to England with a great and rich booty of wines and other articles of merchandise.



Portsmouth may be called the key of England, and is its most regular fortification. It was begun by Edward the Fourth, and augmented by Henry the Seventh and Henry the Eighth; and Queen Elizabeth was at so great an expence in improving the works here, that nothing was thought wanting to compleat them; but Charles the Second added very much to their strength, extent, and magnificence, and made this one of the principal harbours in the kingdom for laying up the royal navy: he furnished it with wet and dry docks, store-houses, rope-yards, and all materials for building, repairing, rigging, arming, victualling, and compleatly fitting to sea, ships of war of all rates; and ever since the succeeding Kings have been making additions to the strength and beauty of the garrison, there being an annual allowance from government for keeping it in repair. At this place all our fleets of force, and all squadrons appointed as convoys to our trade, homeward or outward bound, constantly rendezvous, and a thousand sail may ride here in perfect security. The mouth of this harbour, which is scarcely so broad as the river Thames is at Westminster, is upon the Portsmouth side defended by a castle built by Henry the Eighth, and situated about a mile and a half south of the town. This castle is fortified by a good counterscarp, and double moat, with ravelins, and double palisades, besides advanced works to cover the place from any approach, where it may be practicable: but part of the fort was accidentally blown up, and greatly damaged, in August 1759. The mouth of the harbour is, on the Gosport side, defended by four small forts, and a platform of above twenty great guns, level with the water.

The town of Portsmouth is fortified on the land side by works raised of late years, about the docks and yards; and some years ago government bought more ground for additional works. Here are dwelling-houses, with ample accommodations for a commissioner of the navy, and all the subordinate officers and master workmen, necessary for the constant service of the navy in this port day and night; and the contents of the yards and store-houses are laid up in such order that the workmen can readily find any implement even in the dark. The quantities of military and naval stores of all kinds that are laid up here are immense. The rope-house is near a quarter of a mile long, and some of the cables so large that an hundred men are required to work upon them at a time; and this labour

labour, though divided among so many, is notwithstanding so violent that the men can work at it only four hours in a day. The number of men continually employed in the yard is never less than one thousand. The docks and yards resemble a distinct town, and are a kind of marine corporation within themselves; they are as convenient as can be imagined, and capable of docking twenty-five or thirty ships in a fortnight; and in the dock-yard there is a royal academy. On July 3, 1760, a fire broke out in the dock-yard, which consumed the rope-house, the spinning-house, the hemp-house, and one of the store-houses, with sundry stores, to the value of more than fifty thousand pounds.—The rope-house was set on fire, and burnt down a second time, on the 7th of December, 1776, by the celebrated James Hill, commonly known by the name of John the Painter, and twenty ton weight of hemp, value two hundred pounds; ten cables, of one hundred fathom length, and three inches in circumference, value eighty pounds; and six ton weight of cordage, value two hundred pounds, destroyed. Of this offence John the Painter was afterwards convicted, and hung in chains.

Portsmouth stands on a gradual descent to the sea; and since the new pavement has been finished, may be esteemed one of the most pleasant, neat, and healthy towns in the kingdom; and there have been as many instances of longevity here as in most places. This pavement took place by act of parliament in 1768, was finished in 1773, and is as compleat a work of the kind as any in the kingdom. The expence was defrayed by the proprietors of the houses and land, and amounted to eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-six pounds eight shillings. The charges of repairs are paid by the tenants, and are collected in the same manner as the poor rates, by an assessment of three-pence in the pound,

Though the town is very old there are many genteel modern buildings in it: many of the houses are appropriated to the use of lodgings, on account of the great resort here in the summer season. The markets are plentifully supplied with good butcher's meat, poultry of all sorts, fish, eggs, butter, bacon, &c. besides which they are remarkable for large quantities of the best vegetables of every kind. Though provisions are much advanced in their price within these few years, they are as reasonable here, if not more so, than in any other place at an equal distance from the capital. There are three elegant



inns here, viz. the George, Fountain, and King's Arms; and a very good coffee-house, on the Grand Parade, called the Crown.

The Grand Parade is at the lower end of the High-street; it is very spacious; two regiments of soldiers may be reviewed on it with ease. On one side stands the main guard-house to the garrison. From this you go by an easy ascent to the platform, the principal saluting battery, from which there is an amazing fine prospect of Spithead and the Isle of Wight.

The ramparts are a beautiful elevated terrace walk, of a mile and a quarter round, edged with elm-trees, kept in a most regular order. From this eminence the unbounded prospect of the sea, contrasted with the landscape which the neighbouring country affords, forms one of the most striking variegated scenes imaginable. Indeed it has always been an object of the highest admiration to strangers, and we may venture to say ever will be so, as long as the beauties of nature and art continue to merit our attention.

At the upper end of the Grand Parade stands a fine old building, formerly a monastery called *God's House*; it was built by William of Wickham, whose brother, in 1367, was prior of it. At the dissolution of religious houses by Henry the Eighth, it was converted into a dwelling-house for the Captain or Governor of the garrison, since which great alterations and modern additions have been made to it. Adjoining to this house is a handsome spacious chapel, for the use of the officers and soldiers belonging to the garrison. There was also an hospital named *St. Nicholas*, by the chapel gate, built for the reception of a certain number of old men, but time has destroyed this piece of antiquity. That part of the parade fronting the Governor's house was formerly a burying ground to the monastery. About forty-six years ago many human skulls and bones were dug out of this ground, in making a foundation for a part of the works.

When the civil wars broke out between Charles the First and his parliament, this town and fort was seized by the latter as a place of great importance; but it was one of the first that declared for Charles the Second when they heard of Monk's restoring him to the crown.

The church, which stands nearly in the centre of the town, was finished in the year 1693, and the chancel was at that time altered and beautified. In this chancel, behind the communion

nion table, is a large elegant marble monument, erected to the memory of the Duke of Buckingham, who, in the reign of Charles the First, in the year 1628, was stabbed in the High-street, by Felton, a Lieutenant, belonging to one of the regiments. The house where the fact was committed is now standing. Felton frankly confessed the murder as soon as he had perpetrated it, saying, he did it to serve the cause of God and his country. The King advised with the Judges about torturing him, but none of them would consent to it; so that he was tried and condemned in the usual way, and executed at Tyburn; his body afterwards being sent to Portsmouth, where it was hanged in chains, without the town. A mark now remains to shew where the gibbet stood.

The present tower and cupola were built several years after the church: over this cupola is a lanthorn, containing one bell, formerly employed to give notice how many ships appeared in the offing. A watchman was kept in this lanthorn for the above purpose; but it is now only used in cases of fire. Above this lanthorn, instead of a weather-cock, is a ship completely rigged, about six feet in length from stem to stern: her flags traversing extremely well, exhibit a very pleasing appearance.

The height of the tower is one hundred and twenty feet. There is a very musical ring of eight bells, five of which were given by Prince George of Denmark, who at the request of Sir George Rook, had them removed from an old pharos or watch-tower, within the fortification of Dover castle; but these afterwards were recast, and three more added by the town. There is also a set of chimes, the gift of Mr. William Brandon, in 1703.

There are four good barracks; two for the invalid regiment in garrison, a third for the companies of artillery who do duty here, and the fourth for the marines of this division, that they may be in readiness to embark on board the ships as they are wanted. The marine barracks were formerly the King's cooperage; but as the situation of Gosport was found more eligible, the cooperage was removed thither.

The victualling office is a large office in King's-street, with a handsome house annexed for the agent victualler, the principal officer belonging to it. Here beef and pork are slaughtered and salted, biscuit baked, and every other necessary provision stored for the service of the navy.

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The armoury, though much inferior to that of the Tower, is by no means unworthy of notice. It is an old building near St. Mary's-street, containing arms for five thousand men, which are kept in the most exact order.

There is here a grammar-school, under the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Christ-church, Oxford, with a genteel house for the residence of the principal master. It was founded by the late Dr. Smith, physician of this place. In this school are taught the learned languages, and the mathematics in all its branches, navigation, &c. for which last purpose a particular master has been lately appointed.

There is an alms-house in this town for eight poor widows, endowed by a Mr. Burgefs.

At the upper end of the High-street, is a neat and regular theatre, at which a company of comedians from the houses in London generally play during the summer season. In the winter it is converted into an assembly-room, as the Opera-house in the Haymarket, London. The assembly is supported by subscription.

In 1754, was built by subscription of the inhabitants a large and commodious bathing-house, containing four fine baths, of different depths of water, two of them large enough to swim in. It is situated near the mouth of the harbour, close to the run of the tide, and every flood it is plentifully supplied with water. In it are two good dressing-rooms, one for the gentlemen, and one for the ladies, with every other necessary accommodation.—For those who prefer it, there is a safe place for open bathing along the South Sea Beach, where the sea covers a fine gravelly bottom, to the length of half a mile.

SOUTHAMPTON is the county-town, and was formerly called *Hanton*, from its situation upon a bay, anciently called *Trisanton*, or *The Bay of Anton*, the old name of the river Test. Afterwards it took the name of *South Hanton*, or *Hampton*, to distinguish it from Hampton, Northampton, and other towns of that name. It stands between the rivers Test and Itching, at the distance of seventy-eight miles from London: both these rivers are navigable for some way up the country, from whence, especially from the New Forest, vast quantities of timber are brought down, which lie on the shore here sometimes for two miles in length, and are fetched by the ship-builders at Portsmouth-dock, few ships being now built

built at Southampton. This town was incorporated by Henry the Second and King John, and made a county of itself by Henry the Sixth, which renders it independent of the Lord Lieutenant of the shire. According to its last charter, which was granted by Charles the First, the corporation consists of a mayor, nine justices, a sheriff, two bailiffs, twenty-four common councilmen, and as many burghesses. The mayor is admiral of the liberties from South Sea Castle to another called Hurst Castle, which is situated on that neck of land, which running farthest into the sea, makes the shortest passage to the Isle of Wight, the distance not being above two miles.

This town was greatly harrassed by the Danes, who took it in 980, and in the reign of Edward the Third it was plundered and burnt to the ground by the French; but it was soon after rebuilt in a more convenient situation, and fortified with double ditches and strong walls, with battlements and watch towers. As it soon became populous, Richard the Second built a strong castle, on a high mount, for the defence of the harbour. It is said that by some privileges anciently granted to this place, all the Canary wine brought to England was obliged to be first landed here, which brought great wealth to the inhabitants; but the merchants of London suffering greatly by this delay, gave money to the corporation as an equivalent for that privilege, and had their wines brought directly to London.

Southampton is at present surrounded by a wall built of very hard stone, resembling those little white shells, like honeycombs, that grow on the back of oysters. These stones seem to have been gathered near the beach of the sea, which encompasses almost one half of the town, and so deep that ships of five hundred tons burthen have frequently been built here. To defend this part of the town from the force of the waves, a strong bank is built of what is called *Sea Ore*, a substance composed of a long and slender, but strong filaments, somewhat resembling undressed hemp. This bank is said to be a better defence than a wall of stone, or even a natural clift, but this is not very credible. The principal street is one of the broadest in England, and near three quarters of a mile long, well paved on each side, and ending in a very fine quay. Near the quay is a fort with some guns on it, which was erected by Henry the Eighth in 1542. This town has a public hall, in which  
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the assizes are usually kept; but its chief ornaments are its churches, of which there are five, besides a French church. Here is an hospital, called *God's House*, and a free-school, founded by Edward the Sixth; a charity-school was also opened in 1613, and a subscription compleated of about eighty pounds a year, for the education of thirty boys.

There were formerly many merchants here, and there are still some, who carry on the Port and French wine trade, but the principal dealings are with Greenland and Jersey; and there are others who trade to Newfoundland for fish.

About the year 1768, on account of the great resort of the nobility and gentry to Southampton, and a want of proper accommodations in the town, a plan was formed for erecting several houses in its vicinity. A spot of ground was accordingly selected, about a quarter of a mile on the London side of the town, containing twenty-two acres of a fine gravelly soil, agreeably elevated, and commanding a most delightful prospect of the Southampton water as far as Calshot Castle, and enchanting views of the New Forest, the town of Southampton, the Isle of Wight, and many gentlemen's seats. A spot thus decorated by nature required a plan equally novel and respectable; for which purpose the ingenious architect Mr. Leroux, of Great Russell-street, London, devised a Polygon of twelve sides, with a house in the centre of each, having the proper offices detached and kept low, the principal fronts being contrived to appear outwards, and the gardens to converge towards the centre, where a basin of water was placed for the use of the several houses.

The exterior part of the Polygon is encircled by a walk inclosed with posts and chains, and lamps; adjoining to which is a public road of half a mile in extent; and beyond the whole, and before the respective buildings, lies the grass land belonging to each house.

In consequence of this judicious disposition, every house partakes of the same delightful views, through the large spaces left between the different buildings, by reversing the best rooms in the several plans. Some of the houses are calculated to be divided into two, with their entrances in the basement-story from the court-yard, sideways.

As a part of this great plan, there was also at the extremity of the Polygon, and in perfect unison with it, a capital building, with two detached wings, and colonades; the centre being

ing applied as a capital tavern, with assembly-rooms, card-rooms, coffee-rooms, &c. and each wing (four stories high) being considered as hotels for the accommodation of the nobility and gentry, nine rooms on each story, forming a compleat suite for the most respectable family.

The whole may, in fact, be considered as a splendid assemblage of noblemen's and gentlemen's seats.

STOCKBRIDGE is situated on the road to Weymouth, and other parts of the west, at the distance of sixty-seven miles from London, and is a borough by prescription, governed by a bailiff, constable, and serjeants. The bailiff, who is generally an innkeeper, is the returning officer at elections for parliament; and the innkeeper, that he may have an opportunity of receiving bribes upon these occasions, without incurring the penalty, has frequently procured one of his own ostlers to be elected bailiff, and has himself carried the mace before him. Sir Richard Steele, who represented this borough in parliament in the reign of Queen Anne, carried his election against a powerful opposition, by sticking a large apple full of guineas, and declaring that it should be the prize of that man whose wife should be first brought to bed after that day nine months; this merry offer procured him the interest of all the ladies, who, it is said, commemorate Sir Richard's bounty to this day; and once made a vigorous effort to procure a standing order of the corporation, that no man should ever be received a candidate who did not offer himself upon the same terms. This town in general is but a mean place, though there are some good inns in it, and the best wheelwrights and carpenters in the county.

ANDOVER derives its name from its situation on a small river called the *Ande*. It is sixty-five miles from London, and is said to have its first charter from King John; it was last incorporated by Queen Elizabeth, and is governed by a bailiff, a steward, a recorder, two justices, and twenty-two capital burgeses, who annually chuse the bailiff, and the bailiff appoints two serjeants at mace to attend him. This town is large, handsome, and populous, and is healthfully and pleasantly situated on the edge of the downs on the great road from London to Wiltshire. Here is an alms-house for the maintenance of six poor men; here is also a free-school, which



was founded in 1569, and a charity-school for thirty boys. In this town are made great quantities of malt, but its chief manufacture is shalloons.

GOSPORT is situated over-against Portsmouth, on the other side, at the entrance of Portsmouth harbour, and is seventy-eight miles from London. This town, though on a different side of the harbour, and in a different parish, often goes by the name of Portsmouth, and boats are continually passing from one to the other. Gosport is a large town, and has a great trade; it is chiefly inhabited by the sailors and their wives, and the warrant officers; and travellers generally chuse to lodge here, on account that every thing is considerably cheaper and more convenient than in Portsmouth. Here is a noble hospital for the cure of the sick and wounded sailors in the service of the navy, and here also is a free-school.

BASINGSTOKE is forty-six miles from London, and stands in the road to Andover. It is a large populous town, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, seven aldermen, seven capital burghesses, with other officers. Besides the church, here are the ruins of a neat chapel, built by William, the first Lord Sandys, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, and near it a free-school; and besides these here are three charity-schools, in one of which twelve boys are educated and maintained by the Skinner's Company in London. This town has a great market for all sorts of corn, especially barley, and a considerable trade in malt; the chief manufacture is druggets and shalloons. The adjacent country, though surrounded with woods, is rich in pasture, and sprinkled with fine houses, and a brook runs by the town which has plenty of trout.

Near Basingstoke there was formerly a seat of John Marquis of Winchester, called *Basing House*, which the Marquis in the great civil war turned into a fortress for the King, and having a resolute band of soldiers under him, held it a long time, to the great annoyance of the parliament army; but after having resisted many attacks, Cromwell at last took it by storm, and being provoked by the Marquis's zeal, and the obstinacy of his defence, he put many of the garrison to the sword, and burnt the house to the ground. It was a building rather fit for a prince than a subject; and among other furniture that was destroyed with it, there was one bed worth one thousand four hundred pounds; and the plunder was so considerable,

considerable, that a private soldier got three hundred pounds for his own share.

WHITCHURCH is pleasantly situated in the great western road through Andover, on the skirts of a forest called *The Forest of Chute*, at the distance of fifty-eight miles from London. It is an ancient borough by prescription, and governed by a mayor, chosen yearly at the court-leet of the Dean and Chapter of Winchester, who are lords of the manor. The freeholders chuse their representatives in parliament, who are returned by the mayor. The chief trade of this town is in shalloons, serges, and other articles of the woollen manufacture.

PETERSFIELD stands at the distance of fifty-five miles from London, in the road to Portsmouth; it is a borough, and governed by a mayor and commonalty, who though incorporated by a charter of Queen Elizabeth, have shamefully given up all their privileges to the family of the Hamboroughs, who are lords of the manor, and at whose court the mayor is now annually chosen. The town is populous, and not ill built; and being a great thoroughfare, is well accommodated with inns. The church here is only a chapel of ease.

LEMINGTON, or LYMINGTON, is a small but populous seaport, pleasantly situated upon a hill that has a fine prospect of the Isle of Wight, in the narrow part of the streight called *The Needles*, at the entrance of the bay of Southampton. It is ninety-seven miles from London, and is a corporation by prescription, consisting of a mayor, aldermen, and burgeses without limitation; its burgeses enjoy certain privileges granted them by those of Southampton, in the reign of Edward the Third. The mayor is chosen by the burgeses, and sworn at the court of the lord of the manor. This town stands within a mile of the sea, and has a quay, with custom-house officers and shipwrights. Great quantities of salt are made here, which is said to exceed most in England for preserving flesh, and the south parts of the kingdom are chiefly supplied with it from hence.

RUMSEY is situated on the river Test, which runs from hence to Southampton bay: it is seventy-eight miles from  
 2 R 2 London



London, and stands in the road from Salisbury to Southampton, and is a pretty large old town, governed by a mayor, a recorder, six aldermen, and twelve burgesses. Rumsey is very delightfully situated, with woods, meadows, hills, corn-fields, and rivulets around it. The church is a noble pile arched with stone, in form of a cross, and has semi-circular chapels in the upper angles or corners, where the two sides of the walls meet. The place is chiefly inhabited by clothiers.

RINGWOOD is situated near the river Avon, is ninety-five miles from London, and was in the time of the Saxons a place of eminence. It is large and well built, but the valley in which it lies is frequently overflowed by the river, which here divides into several streams: it is however a thriving town, and has a good manufacture in druggets, narrow cloths, stockings, and leather.

WALTHAM, called also *Bishop's Waltham*, and by a corrupt abbreviation *Bush Waltham*, from a palace which the Bishop of Winchester had formerly here, is seventy-three miles from London, and has a charity-school. In 1723 there was a gang of deer-stealers called *The Blacks of Waltham*, because they blacked their faces, when they robbed in the neighbouring forests. They were soon suppressed by a proclamation and an act of parliament.

CHRIST CHURCH was anciently called *Twinam Bourne*, from its situation between the two rivers Avon and Stour, near their conflux, and has borrowed its present name from the dedication of its church to Christ. It is one hundred and two miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, aldermen, bailiffs, and common-councilmen. The chief manufactures are silk stockings and gloves. The river Avon, which here falls into the sea, was made navigable to it from Salisbury about the year 1680.

ODIHAM, situated in the road to Basingstoke, is forty-one miles from London. It is a corporation town, and was formerly a free borough of the Bishop of Winchester; it has now a charity-school for thirty boys.

KINGSLERE is pleasantly situated on the downs, bordering on Berkshire, and is fifty-five miles from London: it was  
once

once the seat of the Saxon Kings of this country, as its name seems to import.

FORDINGBRIDGE is an obscure town, ninety-one miles from London. It is situated on the river Avon, and was once much larger, having suffered greatly by fire.

ALRESFORD is sixty miles from London, stands on the road to Winchester, and is an ancient borough town, governed by a bailiff and eight burgessees. Part of a Roman highway that goes from hence to Alton and London, serves for the head of a great pond near this town.

ALTON is fifty miles from London, and stands in the road from that city to Winchester and Southampton. Here is a charity-school.

FARHAM is seventy-three miles from London, and is a pleasant town, but of little note.

HAVANT is sixty-six miles from London, and is a little town of no note but for its market.

#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

The ruins of *Netley Abbey*, near Southampton, which is supposed to have been founded so early as the twelfth century, from their venerable appearance, and the beauty of their situation, never fail to inspire the attentive beholder with awe and delight.

*Hurstbourne Park*, the seat of the Earl of Portsmouth, is a new and magnificent building, situated about five miles from Andover and sixty from London. It is in a great measure composed of the materials of the former mansion, which was erected too near the canal by the present Earl of Portsmouth's grand-father, about sixty years since, who added the wings, and compleated the house, though it was originally begun by his elder brother. The principal design of the present structure was formed by Mr. Wyatt, and executed by Mr. Meadows; and is esteemed a very masterly plan for a nobleman's seat.



seat. It is pleasantly situated, on an elevated ground, within about five hundred paces of the former edifice. The body of the house has a very grand appearance, and the wings are connected on each side by colonades of the Tuscan order. The body contains six very noble rooms on a floor; in the eastern wing is the library, the chapel, and steward's room; and the western one consists of an infinite variety of apartments for the servants, offices, and other accommodations. The timbers and walls of the buildings are said to be particularly strong. The park is small, but delightfully wooded, and well stocked with deer; and the adjacent stream is remarkable for the beauty and clearness of its water.

The Earl of Portsmouth has another seat at *Farley*, near Basingstoke; but Hurstbourne is intended for his Lordship's principal residence.

Near *Whitchurch* his Lordship has also another fine seat, to which belongs a very large park, beautified with wood and water; and the irregularity of the ground, it having many rising hills in it, renders the prospect very agreeable.

*Beaulieu*, in the New Forest, was the seat of the Duke of Montague; *Hawkwood*, near Basingstoke, and *Abbotsen*, near Alton, both belong to the Duke of Bolton; *Rockbourn House*, fifteen miles from Southampton, is the seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury; *Farnborough Place*, six miles from Odiham, is the seat of the Earl of Anglesea; *Maple Durham*, near Petersfield, was the seat of the late Henry Bilson Legge, Esq; *Titchfield Place*, near Titchfield, is the seat of the Duke of Portland; *The Grange*, near Alresford, is the seat of the Earl of Northington; *Whorewell*, near Andover, is the seat of the Earl of Delawar; and *Edesworth*, ten miles from Portsmouth, is the seat of Lord Dormer.

At the hamlet of *St. Mary's*, a little to the north-east of Southampton, stood an old Roman town, called *Clausentum*, a name which in the ancient British language signifies *The Port of Entum*. The ruins of this town may be traced as far as the haven on one side, and beyond the river Itching on the other; and the trenches of a castle, half a mile in compass, are still visible in *St. Mary's Field*. This castle is supposed to be one of the forts frequently erected by the Romans to keep out the Saxons.

At

At *Silchester*, a hamlet, consisting only of one farm-house and a church, situate north-east of Kingsclere, upon the borders of Berkshire, are to be seen the remains of the celebrated *Vindomia*, or *Vindonum*, of the Romans, and the *Gaer Segont* of the Britons, once the chief city of the *Segontiaci*; and said to be built by Constantius, the son of Constantine the Great, who is reported to have sown corn in the traces of the walls, as an omen of their perpetuity. The walls, which are two Italian miles in circumference, and built of flint and rag-stone, are still standing. They are surrounded by a ditch, which is still impassible, and full of springs. At the distance of five hundred feet without these walls, to the north-east are the remains of an amphitheatre, which has long been a yard for cattle, and a watering pond for horses. In this place several Roman roads, which are still visible, concur; and in the neighbouring fields a vast number of Roman coins, bricks, and other relics, are often found; among the rest was a stone with the following inscription: “*Memoriæ Fl. Victorinæ T. Tam. Victor Coniux Posuit*,” and some coins of Constantine, on the reverse of which there is the figure of a building, and this inscription: “*Providentiæ Cæss.*” Some British coins were also found here, which the common people call *Onion Pennies*, from one *Onion*, whom they will have to be a giant, and an inhabitant of *Vindomia*.

Between the east side of the river Avon and Southampton Bay, is a forest called *New Forest*, which is at least forty miles in circumference. This tract of country originally abounded with towns and villages, in which there was no less than thirty-six parish churches; but the whole was laid waste, and the inhabitants driven from their houses and estates, by William the Norman, that it might be made an habitation for wild beasts for him to hunt. It is remarkable that in this forest, the monument of his oppression and cruelty, two of his sons, Richard, and William Rufus, and his grandson Henry, lost their lives. Richard was killed by a pestilential blast, and William Rufus by an arrow, which was shot by Sir Walter Tyrrel at a stag, and Henry, while he pursued his game, was caught by the hair of his head in the boughs of a tree, and suspended there till he died.

On the extremity of a narrow neck of land, that runs two miles into the sea from the *New Forest*, stands a building called



led *Hurste Castle*, which is one of the forts built by Henry the Eighth, to defend that forest against invasions, to which it had been many ages exposed.

On the west side of Andover is a village, at the beginning of Salisbury plain, called *Weyhill*, which, though containing only a desolate church on a rising ground, and a few stragling houses, is remarkable for one of the greatest fairs in England, for hops, cheese, sheep, and other articles.

At *Odiham* was formerly a royal palace, and a strong castle, which in King John's time was defended for fifteen days by thirteen men only, against Lewis the Dauphin of France, and the army of the Barons. In this castle David King of Scotland was kept prisoner in the reign of Edward the Third.

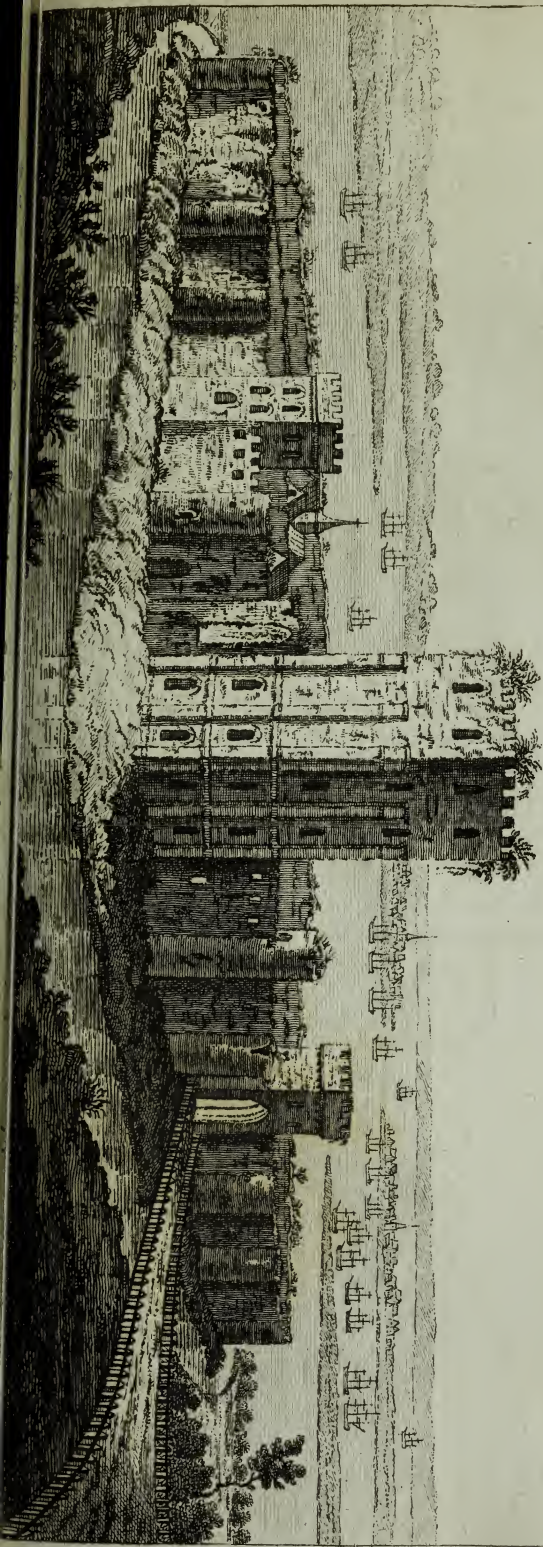
*Titchfield Abbey* was founded by Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, in the reign of Henry the Third, for Premonstratensian canons, and was originally a noble structure.

*Portchester Castle* is the remains of the walls and fortifications of a very ancient and famous town, called *Port Peris*, to which the name of *Portchester* was afterward given. This is supposed to have been the place where the Emperor Vespasian landed.

## THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

This island is reckoned a part of Hampshire, and lies distant from the nearest main land about four or five miles, is of an elliptical form, twenty-two miles in length, twelve in breadth, and sixty in circumference. It is divided into fifty-two parishes, and has very numerous advantages to recommend it, as a most agreeable spot to reside in. Scarcely any place can be named which is happier in the beauties of a varied country. Here are hills, dales, mountains, rocks, wood, and water, all in great perfection. The land is admirably fertile in both grass and corn. Here is game, particularly pheasants, in the greatest plenty; as are also all kinds of provisions; and the place is surrounded by a sea, full of the finest fish in the British dominions.

Through







Through the middle of the island, from east to west, there runs a ridge of mountains, which yields plenty of pasture for sheep, and the wool of the sheep fed in these mountains, being reckoned as good as any in England, turns out much to the advantage of the inhabitants. Here is found the milk-white tobacco-pipe clay, called *Creta*, by writers of natural history, of which great quantities are exported from hence, together with very fine sand, of which drinking glasses are made.

It has been observed of this island, that it yields more corn in one year than the inhabitants can consume in seven; and therefore great quantities are annually exported from this place.

The only stream in the Isle of Wight, worthy of notice, is that called *Cowes River*, a name given it from two towns standing near its mouth, one on the west bank of it, called *West Cowes*, and the other on the east bank, distinguished by the name of *East Cowes*; it is sometimes called *Newport River*, from Newport, situated on the west bank of it. This river rises near the extreme angle of the island southward, and running north, and dividing it into two almost equal parts, falls into the sea at the northmost point of land here, seven miles from Newport.

The Isle of Wight was in all probability part of the territories which were anciently inhabited by the Belgæ. It was subjected to the power of the Romans by Vespasian, under the Emperor Claudian, about the year 45. Cerdic, King of the West Saxons, was the first Saxon Prince who subdued it; he bestowed it on Whitgar, who put all the British inhabitants to the sword, and peopled it with a tribe of foreigners, called *The Jutes*, who followed the Saxons into England, and are supposed to be originally Goths. This island remained subject to the Jutes, till about the year 650, when it was conquered by Walfer, King of the Mercians, and given to Edelwach, King of the South Saxons; though some historians affirm that it was given to Sigebert, King of the East Angles, on condition of his embracing the Christian religion. Cadwalla, King of the West Saxons, is said some time afterwards to have invaded this island, and to have reduced it to his obedience, by putting the inhabitants to the sword.

The Isle of Wight, together with the neighbouring islands of Guernsey and Jersey, situated near the French coast, was



erected into a kingdom by Henry the Sixth, and bestowed on Henry de Beauchamp, Duke of Warwick, whom he crowned King with his own hands, but the Duke dying without issue, these islands lost their regality.

Nature has fortified this island almost all round with rocks, and where these are wanting, art has supplied the deficiency with castles, forts, and block-houses, to defend it against any hostile invasion. The most dangerous of these rocks are the Shingles and the Needles upon the west side of it, the Bramble and the Middle on the north, and the Mixon on the east.

The two parts into which the river Cowes separates this island, are the hundreds, or civil divisions of it, which are called *The Medinas*, from Medina, the ancient name of Newport; and are distinguished, one by the name of *East*, the other of the *West Medina*, in respect as each is situated east or west of Newport.—The island contains the three following market-towns.

NEWPORT is ninety-three miles from London, and is a very ancient borough by prescription, but did not send members to parliament before the reign of Queen Elizabeth. By a charter of James the First it is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, a recorder, and twelve common-councilmen. This is a large populous town, greatly enriched by its commerce. Cowes river is navigable by barges to Newport quay, which extends itself round good part of the town, which renders their shipping off goods from the storehouses very commodious; the streets are regular and uniform, meeting at right-angles. The corn, beast, and butter markets, are kept at distant squares, and are very large and commodious. The buildings are greatly improved, but neither grand nor regular. The church is a large building, with a square tower, and a curious organ; but is, notwithstanding, only a chapel of ease to Carewbrook, a village in the neighbourhood. Here is a charity-school.

YARMOUTH, called also *South Yarmouth*, to distinguish it from Yarmouth in Norfolk, stands upon a creek about one mile from the sea, and is one hundred and one miles from London. It was made a corporation by James the First, and is governed by a mayor and twelve burgesses. Here is a castle  
and

and a garrison, and about eighty handsome houses, chiefly built of free-stone. Vessels sometimes put in at this place, when the weather will not permit them to sail by the Needles.

NEWTON is ninety-four miles from London, and is governed by a mayor and burgeses. It has sent members to parliament ever since the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and has a convenient haven, or creek, in the north side of the island, between Yarmouth and West Cowes, but is a very inconsiderable place.

The principal forts or castles in this island are the following:

*Carebrook Castle* was originally built by the Saxons, and has been repaired several times, and about the beginning of the sixteenth century was magnificently rebuilt by the governor of the island, though probably at the charge of the crown. This castle is still the seat of the governor: it was formerly much used as a place of confinement for prisoners of the highest quality, and Charles the First was a prisoner here thirteen months.

At *West Cowes* there is a castle to defend the mouth of the river. It was built by Henry the Eighth, and has a garrison under the command of the deputy-governor of the island. There was also a castle at *East Cowes*, but that has been for a long time neglected.

*Sandown*, or *Sanham Castle*, in the East Medina, stands on the north end of the bay, hence called *Sandown Bay*, and is three leagues from Portsmouth; this is the strongest castle in the island, and here is always a garrison, with a governor and captain, and thirty wardens, besides gunners.

*Sharpnor Castle* stands directly opposite to *Hurste Castle*, and used to have a small garrison under a governor.

The following are the most remarkable seats, villages, &c. on this island:

Mr. Rogers, of *West Cowes*, has an agreeable seat on a rising ground near the sea, which commands a noble view



of the channel from Portsmouth quite to Lymington, and the mouth of the Southampton river. The high lands in Suffex, the hills in Hampshire, and the woody coast of the New Forest, all bound the view, and form for one stroke of the eye the noblest river perhaps the world can exhibit: the breadth is from three to seven miles, and the length from twenty-five to thirty. This beautiful expanse of water is scarcely ever free from the enlivening addition of all sorts of ships, from the largest men of war down to some hundreds of fishing boats. Every day gives a new view of fleets, and the attitudes of the single ships offer a variety uncommonly entertaining. Upon the whole, it much exceeds any sea prospect: the unentertaining range of boundless ocean strikes at first a sublime idea, but the repetition of the view has but few charms; whereas this prospect fatigues in nothing. You either command distinctly a noble lake land-locked in a most various manner, or, as you vary your position, a winding river that cannot be exceeded in beauty. The home views about Mr. Rogers's grass plot, are admirably pleasing: the village of Cowes in a bottom, hid by wood, is marked by the course of the shipping that are constantly moving to and from it. Above the village a hill of uncultivated land rises finely, and forms a strong projection to the sea, finishing in a space of wild woody ground: the whole is a very bold shore. From one of the seats you look through the stems of four large trees into a very pretty landscape: a river at the bottom of a vale, a few houses on its banks, backed with a rising hill cut into inclosures, and variegated with woods, trees, hedges, &c.

On this island are also the seats of Sir William Oglander, Sir John Barrington, Mr. Grove, the late Honourable Hans Stanley, and Sir Richard Worsley, the late governor, all being in delightful situations, and possessing beauties sufficient to attract the visits of strangers, especially the latter, the park being very romantic. The house also is a very noble edifice, and was not long since compleatly fitted up in all the elegance of modern taste.

At the distance of a mile or two from Cowes, is a spot called *Gurnard Bay*, from the hills by which is a very fine and romantic view: the water breaks boldly into the land in various bays and creeks. In front, the river is bounded on  
the

the other side the water by the New Forest, with the distant hills beyond. The Dorsetshire hills rise in fine varieties ; in particular one large and two small and irregular ones. To the left the island projects in four promontories, which are distinctly seen one beyond another ; the furthest is a hill in a dark shade ; the next, higher grounds, varied in inclosures ; nearer to you another, in which the corn-fields, cut by fine hedges, break boldly to the very water ; the ploughmen seem to tread the main. A piece of wild broken ground, forming a noble shore, separates this land from another promontory almost at your feet, which is a fine slope of wood, that dips quite to the water ; its head a cultivated field. The whole scene is complete, all within the eye's ken ; the whole great, various, and beautiful.

Nor is the northern part of the island destitute of more rural views, though not in the whole equal to them in the southern. From *Cockleton Farm*, in Northwood parish, a vale winds under a spreading hill, cut into inclosures, and finely fringed with wood, on which the views are truly picturesque.

*Freshwater* is a small village about ten miles from Newport, famous for its cliffs, which are of a stupendous height, and often visited by strangers, on account of the great number of exotic birds, which annually resort to those cliffs to lay their eggs, hatch, and breed their young.

*St. Helens* lies at the east end of the island, about twelve miles from Newport. It is only remarkable for its road, which is large enough to contain the whole navy of England.





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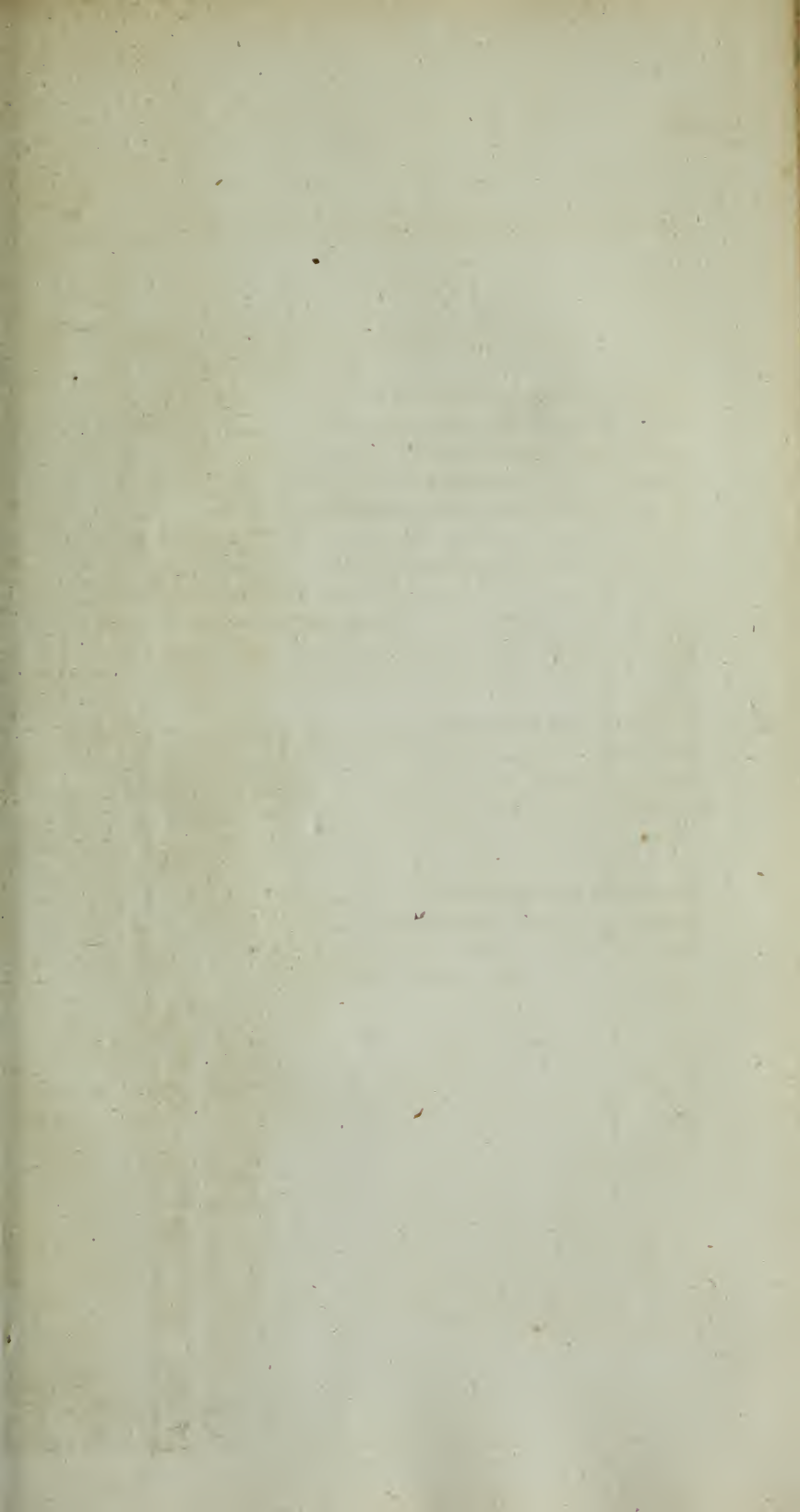
## HEREFORDSHIRE.

**T**HIS county is bounded on the north by Shropshire, on the south by Monmouthshire, on the east by Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, and on the west by the Welch counties of Brecknockshire and Radnorshire. It is almost of a circular form, measuring thirty-five miles from north to south, and thirty miles from east to west, and is one hundred and eighty miles in circumference.

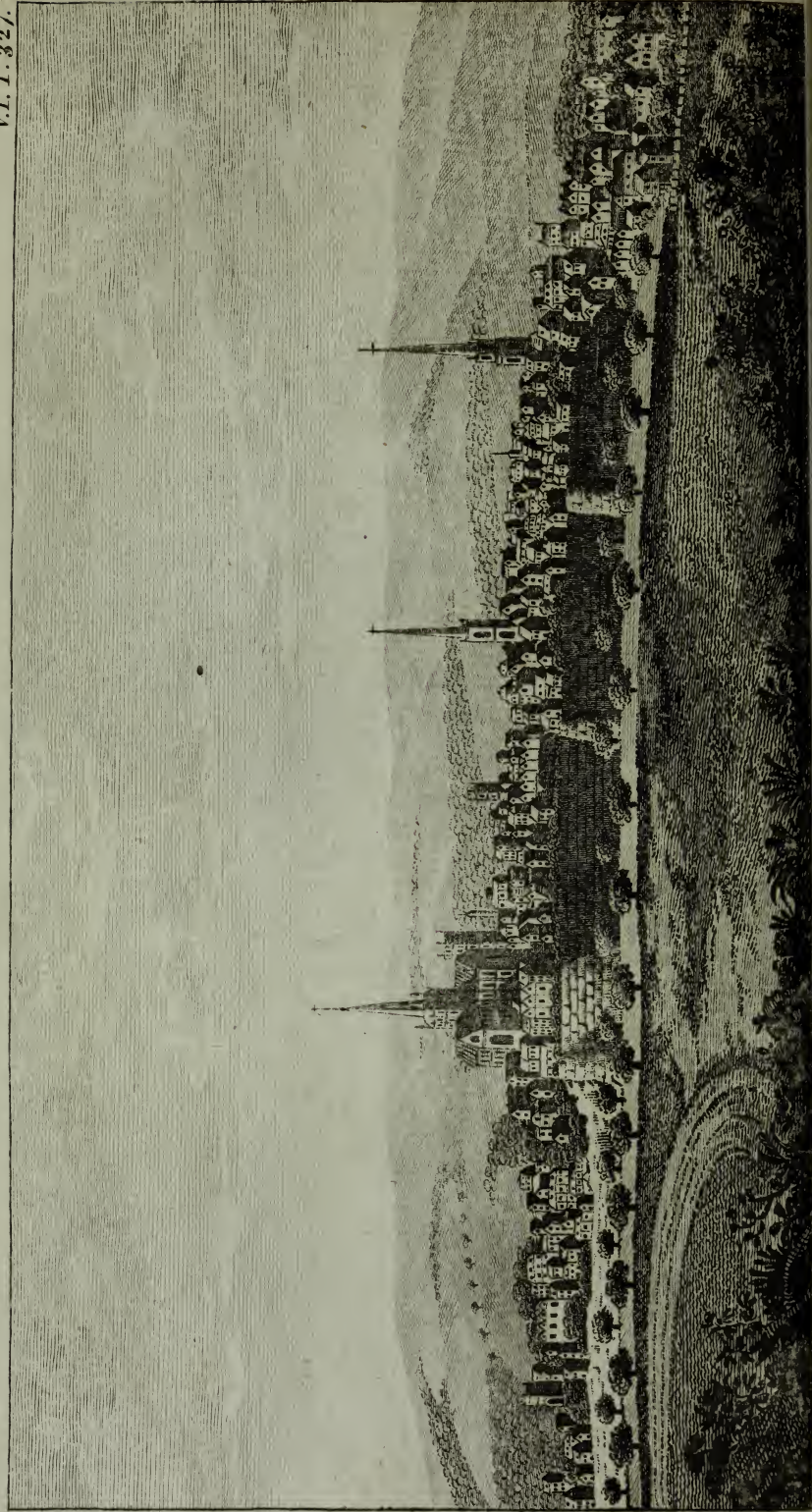
The air of this county is pure, and consequently healthy, particularly between the rivers Wye and Severn, which has given occasion to a proverb very common among the inhabitants of the county: "Blessed is the eye between Severn and Wye."

The soil of Hereford is extremely fertile, yielding fine pasture, and great quantities of corn; it is also well stocked with wood, and there are some apple-trees, particularly the redstreaks, which thrive here better than in any other county; the hedges on the highways are full of them, and the hogs grow fat by feeding on the windfalls, which give a reddish colour and sweet taste to their flesh; but from these apples a much greater advantage arises to the inhabitants, for they afford such quantities of cyder that it is the common drink of the county; and a few years ago, when the smooth cyder was preferred to the rough, it was esteemed the best in England; and a great quantity of rough cyder has been made here since the rough was preferred to the smooth.

This county abounds with springs of fine water, and the rivers affords abundance of fish. The county is watered by several rivers, the chief of which are the Wye, the Monow, and the Lug.—The Wye passes through this county, and separates Monmouthshire from Gloucestershire.—The Monow rises in a chain of mountains called *Hatterel Hills*, which on the south-west separates this county from Radnorshire; then it runs south-east, dividing Monmouthshire from Herefordshire; and after having been augmented by several less considerable







derable streams, falls into the Wye at Monmouth.—The Lug rises in the hills in the north-east of Radnorshire, runs by several windings east through Herefordshire to Leominster, and thence running south-east, after having been joined by several smaller rivers, falls into the Wye, near Hereford.—Other less considerable rivers in this county are the Frome, the Loden, the Wadel, the Arrow, and the Dare.

This county is divided into eleven hundreds, and contains one city and seven market-towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Hereford, and contains one hundred and seventy-six parishes.

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## C I T Y.

The city of HEREFORD stands on the river Wye, and here that river falls into the Severn, and makes part of the barrier between England and Wales. Its name is Saxon, and is supposed to signify *the lord of the army*. As the two nations were almost always at war with one another, this town was generally the head quarters of such Saxon or English forces as were stationed in the county; and at this place both armies probably forded the river when they passed out of Wales into England, or out of England into Wales. This etymology, though plausible, has been much disputed.

This city is overlooked and sheltered towards the north with a prodigious mountain of steep ascent; on the top of which stands a vast camp, with works altogether inaccessible, which is called *Credon Hill*. On the summit you are presented with an extensive prospect as far as St. Michael's Mount in Monmouthshire, crowned with two tops, and of considerable resort among the zealots of the Romish persuasion, who believe that this holy hill was sent thither by St. Patrick out of Ireland, and that it works wonders in several cases.—On the other side is the vast black mountain, which separates Brecknockshire from this county. The city underneath appears like a little copse.—Dinden Hill, on which is a Roman camp, stands on the contrary bank of the river Wye.

Hereford is governed by a mayor and twelve aldermen, a high-steward, a deputy-steward, a recorder and town-clerk, with thirty-one common-councilmen, among whom are reckoned the mayor, and five of the aldermen, who are justices  
of



of the peace; the mayor has a sword-bearer and four serjeants at mace. The trading companies have their distinct halls, laws, and privileges; and here are held the assizes, quarter sessions, and county courts. A small river that appears to have no name, running by the north side of the city, falls on the east side of it into the Wye, which flows by the south side, so that this city is surrounded by rivers, except on the west side. It often suffers by the swell of the Wye on the south, over which it has a good stone bridge of eight arches. It is about a mile and half in circumference; the houses are old, the streets dirty, and the inhabitants few. It has now a cathedral, and four parish churches; before the civil wars in the last century it had six, but two of them are destroyed. The cathedral is a beautiful and magnificent structure, adorned with the monuments of several of its ancient prelates. It has a bishop, a dean, a chancellor, sixteen canons, twenty-seven prebendaries, a chanter, a treasurer, and twelve vicars choral, with deacons, choristers, and other officers. The bishop has a palace called *The Castle*, and the other dignitaries have houses in a place called *The Close*; the vicars and choristers also have a college in which they live, in a collegiate or academical way, under a governor or president: the situation is pleasant, but the buildings are mean.

This city is one hundred and thirty-two miles from London, and has an hospital, which was founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and well endowed, for twelve poor people; and two charity-schools, one for sixty boys, the other for forty girls, who are all clothed by subscription.—The only manufacture is gloves, and some other leathern wares.

Hereford Castle was a noble work, built by one of the Edwards, and strongly walled and ditched. It has a very lofty artificial keep, with a well, fenced with good stone; and by the side of the ditch is a spring consecrated to St. Ethelbert, with an old stone arch. Upon the site of the ancient castle, the corporation have made a public walk, called *The Castle Green*. It is very handsome, well kept, and adorned with seats, buildings, trees, &c. It is washed on one side by the river Wye, commands the most pleasing prospects, and is perhaps one of the most delightful public walks belonging to any town in England.

MARKET.

## MARKET-TOWNS.

LEOMINSTER is distant from London one hundred and thirty-seven miles; it was incorporated by Queen Mary, and is governed by a high-steward, a bailiff, a recorder, twelve capital burgessees, out of whom the bailiff is chosen, and a town-clerk. It is a large, handsome, populous town, with several bridges over the river Lug, and is a great thoroughfare between South Wales and London. It has a large beautiful church, and an alms-house, founded by the widow of a man who is said to have given away the greatest part of his estate in his life-time, and to have been afterwards treated with disrespect, from which his money would have preserved him. This is probably alluded to by the figure of a man, holding up a hatchet, in a nich over the entrance to the house, with the following lines underneath :

“ Let him that gives his goods before he’s dead,  
“ Take this hatchet, and cut off his head.”

At the fairs of this town are sold many horses and black cattle, and it had so considerable a trade in wool at its market, which was held on a Thursday, the same day as the market was held at Hereford and Worcester, that those cities petitioned to have the day changed, complaining of their loss of trade. Upon this petition Leominster market-day was changed from Thursday to Friday, and since that time the trade has greatly decreased. The wool brought to this market has been reckoned the best in all Europe, except that of Apulia and Tarentum, and was deservedly called *Leominster Ore*, because it greatly enriched the town. This town has also the best of flax, wheat, and barley, in England, carries on a considerable trade in wool, gloves, leather, and hats, having many mills and other machines constantly working on the rivers that flow through the valley on which it stands.

The ruins of a palace are still to be seen on a neighbouring hill, called *Comfort Castle*; and at the east end of the church of Leominster, there are some few remains of a priory.

Ross stands upon the river Wye, at the distance of one hundred and nineteen miles from London. It was made a free borough by Henry the Third, and is a populous well built town, consisting chiefly of two streets, each about half a  
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mile long, crossing each other in the middle. Here are two charity-schools, one for thirty boys, and the other for twenty girls, who are taught and cloathed by subscription. This town is much frequented on account of its markets and fairs, which are well stored with cattle and other provisions. It is famous for cyder; and Mr. Camden says, that in his time it had a considerable manufacture of iron wares. The man of Rofs, so much celebrated by Mr. Pope, lived and was buried here.

KYNETON stands on a small river called *The Arrow*, at the distance of one hundred and fifty-two miles from London. It is a pretty large, well-built, old town, inhabited chiefly by clothiers, who carry on a considerable trade in narrow cloths. Its market is one of the most considerable in the county; and it has a free-school and a charity-school.

LEDBURY stands at the south end of a ridge of mountains called *Malvern Hills*, on the east side of this county, at the distance of one hundred and twenty-two miles from London. It is a well-built town, inhabited chiefly by clothiers, and has an hospital liberally endowed, besides a charity-school.

BROMYARD stands in a country full of orchards, near a river called *The Frome*, at the distance of one hundred and twenty-three miles from London. It is a little obscure town, containing nothing remarkable.

WEBLEY, situated at the distance of one hundred and forty-three miles from London, is an ancient borough by prescription, but no corporation. Here are two charity-schools.

PEMBRIDGE is a small town upon the river *Arrow*, at the distance of one hundred and forty-seven miles from London, where there is a manufacture of woollen cloth.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

Between Leominster and Hereford is another *Hampton Court*, the seat of the late Earl of Coningsby. This fine seat was

was built by Henry Bolingbroke, Duke of Lancaster, afterwards King Henry the Seventh, in the form of a castle situated in a valley upon a rapid river, under cover of Bryn Mawr. The gardens are very pleasant, terminated by vast woods, which cover all the sloping sides of the hill, and there is a plentiful supply of water on all sides of the house, for fountains, basons, and canals. Within are excellent pictures of the Earl's ancestors, with many others by capital artists. The windows of the chapel are well painted, and there are some statues of the Coningsbies. The record-room is on the top of a tower arched with stone, paved with Roman brick, and has an iron door. From the bottom of a stair-case, which reaches to the top of the house, a subterraneous communication is said to reach into Bryn-Mawr wood. The park is very fine, eight miles in circumference, and contains plenty of deer. Here are very extensive prospects, on one side extending into Wiltshire, and on the other over the Welch mountains, lawns, groves, canals, hills, and plains. Here is also a pool, three quarters of a mile long, very broad, and enclosed between two great woods. A new river is cut quite through the park, the channel of which, for a long way together, is hewn out of the rock, and serves to enrich vast tracts of land, which before were barren. Here also are new gardens and canals laid out, and new plantations of timber in very proper places. Warrens, decoys, sheep-walks, pastures for cattle, &c. supply the house with all sorts of conveniencies and necessities.

*Brompton Brian* and *Wigmore Castles* lie in a very fruitful country, near Ludlow. Brompton is an ancient and stately castle, though not kept in full repair, and the parks are fine, and full of large timber. From the windows of the castle you have a fine prospect into the county of Radnor in Wales, which is, as it were, under its walls; indeed, the whole county of Hereford was for many ages deemed a part of Wales. The traveller will probably be surprized to find so pleasant and fruitful a country as this so near the barren mountains of the west; but certain it is, that none of our southern counties, the neighbourhood of London excepted, come up to the fertility of this county.



*Aconbury*, three miles from Hereford, is the seat of the Duke of Chandos. At *Shopton Court*, eight miles from Hereford, is a seat of Lord Bateman; at *Rothens*, near Hereford, is the seat of Mr. Heirs; and at *Home Lacy*, near Brockhampton, is the seat of the family of Scudamores.

Upon the river Lug are *Sutton Walls*, a vast Roman camp, seated upon a hill, and overlooking a beautiful vale, which was the regal residence of the powerful King Offa.

Near Lanterdin is a Roman camp, called *Brandon*, a single square work with four posts; near which are two barrows, where, in 1662, an urn was found with ashes and bones.—About a mile from thence, on the other side of the river Bardfield, was a British camp, called *Croxall*, now covered with large oaks.

Below a hill, on which stands Richard's Castle, about five miles north of Leominster, is a well called *Bone Well*, in which a great quantity of small bones is always found, and of which there is constantly a fresh supply in a very short time after it is cleared of them. Some imagine these to be the bones of some small fish, and others the bones of frogs; but whence, or how they came to be collected here is not easy to be conjectured.

On the top of one of the hills called *Malvern Hills*, there is a spring, the water of which is said to be a remedy for many disorders of the eyes; and at about a furlong distance is another, said to be of great efficacy in the cure of cancers.

At *Doward Hill*, in the parish of Whitchurch, not far from Ross, some men, who were digging, found a cavity, which appeared to have been arched over, and in it a human skeleton, which appeared to have been more than double the stature of the tallest man now known. These bones were, some years ago, in the possession of a surgeon at Bristol.

In the year 1575, *Marcley Hill*, about six miles east of Hereford, after shaking and roaring in a terrible manner, for three days together, was, about six o'clock on Sunday evening, put in motion, and continued moving for eight hours, in  
which

which time it advanced upwards of two hundred feet from its former situation, and mounted twelve fathoms higher than it was before. In the place whence it set out it left a gap four hundred feet long, and three hundred and twenty feet broad, and in its progress it overthrew a chapel, belonging to a village called *Kinnaston*, together with all the trees, houses, and every other thing that stood in its way; carrying with it the trees that grew upon it, with sheep folds, and some flocks of sheep that were grazing on it. Mr. Camden observes, that the earthquake which removed this hill, was of that kind which the naturalists call *Brasmatia*, being a motion up and down, or perpendicular to the horizon.

At *Goodrich*, near *Ross*, is a very ancient castle, now in ruins.





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## HERTFORDSHIRE.

**T**HIS county is bounded by Cambridgeshire on the north, by Middlesex on the south, by Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire on the west, and by Essex on the East. It measures twenty-eight miles from east to west, thirty-six miles from north to south, and one hundred and thirty miles in circumference; and is divided into eight hundreds, in which are eighteen market-towns; one hundred and twenty parishes, and about four hundred and fifty-one thousand acres. This county is watered by several rivers, the chief of which are the Lea, the Coln, the Stort, the Ver, and the New River.

The air of this county is very pure, and consequently healthy, and is often recommended by physicians to valetudinarians, for the preservation and recovery of health. The soil is for the most part rich, and in several places mixed with a marle, which produces excellent wheat and barley. The chief produce of this county is wood, wheat, barley, and all other sorts of grain; and the wheat and barley of Hertfordshire are generally held in very high estimation.

This county lies in the province of Canterbury, and partly in the diocese of London, and partly in that of Lincoln.

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### MARKET-TOWNS.

**HERTFORD** is at the distance of twenty-one miles from London, and was a place of some note in the time of the ancient Britons. The East Saxon Kings often kept their courts here, and upon the first division of the kingdom into counties, it was made the county-town. It sent members to parliament in the reign of King Edward the First, but after the seventh of Henry the Fifth, on the petition of the bailiff and burgesses to be excused, on account of their poverty, that privilege

privilege was discontinued till the twenty-second of James the First.

In the time of Henry the Seventh, the standard of weights and measures was fixed here, and Queen Mary made this a corporation, by the name of bailiffs and burgesses; and by her charter the number of burgesses was to have been sixteen. In the twenty-fifth and thirty-fifth years of Queen Elizabeth, Michaelmas term was kept here, by reason of the plague being at both these times in London; and that Queen granted this town a new charter. King James the First afterwards granted it another charter, with the stile of mayor, burgesses, and commonalty, to have ten capital burgesses and sixteen assistants, and the mayor to be chosen out of the burgesses, by both the burgesses and assistants; but now this town is governed by a mayor, a high-steward, who is generally a nobleman, a recorder, nine aldermen, a town-clerk, chamberlain, ten capital burgesses, and sixteen assistants, together with two serjeants at mace.

The town of Hertford stands pleasantly in a sweet air and dry vale: it is built after the figure of a Roman Y, and has a castle placed between the two horns, in which is the sessions-house for the county. It has also a county-gaol, and formerly had five churches, which now are reduced to two, All Saints and St. Andrews. All Saints is situated on the south side of the town, and has a tall spire covered with lead, and eight good bells, besides an organ, and an handsome gallery for the mayor and aldermen of the borough, and for the governors of Christ-Church Hospital in London, who have erected a good house in this town to receive sick and supernumerary children; they have also built a large gallery in the church, in which two hundred of their children may be accommodated. St. Andrew's is only remarkable for giving its name to one of the streets. Here are three charity-schools, and also a free grammar-school, founded by Richard Hale, Esq; in the reign of King James the First.

The chief commodities of this town are wheat, malt, and wool; and it is said to send no less than five thousand quarters of malt to London weekly, by the river Lea. It is observed, however, that the magnificence of this town is much diminished since the north road from London, which went through it, was turned through the town of Ware.

The



The Castle of Hertford was built by King Alfred, to defend the town and neighbourhood against the Danes, who came up in their light pinnaces from the Thames by the river Lea, as far as Ware, and erected a fort here, whence they made frequent sallies to plunder and destroy the country.

The members of parliament for Hertford are chosen by the freemen in general, the mayor being the returning officer. The weekly market is on Saturday, and there are four annual fairs held here, namely, on Saturday fortnight before Easter, the 12th of May, the 5th of July, and the 8th of November.

ST. ALBAN'S is a large and very ancient town, twenty-one miles from London, and was so called from St. Alban, who suffered in the persecution under Dioclesian, and being afterwards canonized, and interred on a hill in the neighbourhood of this town, a monastery was erected and dedicated to him by King Offa. King Edward the First erected a magnificent cross here in memory of Queen Eleanor; and King Edward the Sixth incorporated this town by a charter, granting the inhabitants a mayor, a steward, a chamberlain, and ten burgesses; but the mayor and steward are here the only justices of the peace. Here are three churches, besides the ancient cathedral called *St. Albans*, belonging to the monastery, which is now a parish church.

In this ancient edifice is a funeral monument and effigy of King Offa, its founder, who is represented seated on his throne; and underneath is the following inscription:

- “ *Fundator ecclesiæ circa annum 793;*  
 “ *Quem male depictum, et residentem cervitis alte*  
 “ *Sublimem folio, MERCIUS OFFA fuit.*”

That is,

The founder of the church, about the year 793,  
 Whom you behold ill-painted on his throne  
 Sublime, was once for MERCIAN OFFA known.

On the east side stood the shrine of St. Alban, where the following short inscription is still to be seen:

- “ S. ALBANUS VEROLAMENSIS, ANGLORUM PROTO-MARTYR,  
 “ 17 Junii, 293.”

In







In the south isle, near the above shrine is the monument of Humphry, brother to King Henry the Fifth, commonly distinguished by the title of *The good Duke of Gloucester*. It is adorned with a ducal coronet, and the arms of France and England quartered. In niches on one side are seventeen Kings; but in the niches on the other side there are no statues remaining. The inscription which alludes to the pretended miraculous cure of a blind man, detected by the Duke, is as follows:

“ *Piæ Memorix V. Opt. Sacrum.*

“ *Hic jacet HUMPHREDUS, Dux ille Gloucestrius olim,*

“ *HENRICI Sexti protector, fraudis ineptæ*

“ *Detector, dum fæta notat miracula cæci.*

“ *Lumen erat patriæ, columen venerabile regni,*

“ *Pacis amans, Musisque favens melioribus; unde*

“ *Gratum opus Oxoniæ, quæ nunc schola sacra refulget.*

“ *Invida sed mulier regno, regi, sibi nequam,*

“ *Abstulit hunc, humili vix, hoc dignata sepulcro.*

“ *Invidia rumpente tamen, post funera vivit.*

Which has been thus translated :

*Sacred to the Memory of the best of Men.*

Interred within this consecrated ground,  
Lies he whom HENRY his protector found;  
Good HUMPHRY, Gloucester's Duke, who well could spy  
Fraud couch'd within the blind impostor's eye.  
His country's light, the state's rever'd support,  
Who peace and rising learning deign'd to court;  
Whence his rich library at Oxford plac'd,  
Her ample schools with sacred influence grac'd;  
Yet fell beneath an envious woman's wile,  
Both to herself, her king, and country vile;  
Who scarce allow'd his bones this spot of land;  
Yet spite of envy shall his glory stand.

About sixty years ago, in digging a grave, a pair of stairs were discovered, that led down into a vault where a leaden coffin was found, in which his body was preserved entire, by a kind of pickle in which it lay, only the flesh was wasted from the legs, the pickle at that end being dried up.—Many curious medals and coins are to be seen in the church, that have been dug out of the ruins of Old Verulam that stood on the other side of the river Ver, or Moore, which runs south-west of the town.



In the chancel of St. Michael's church in this town, there is a neat monument of white marble, erected to the memory of the famous Lord Bacon, by Sir Thomas Meauty's, who was his Lordship's secretary. This nobleman, though he had some considerable failings as a man and as a statesman, possessed one of the most comprehensive understandings, and was one of the greatest philosophers that have appeared in this or in any other country. On his monument his Lordship is represented sitting in a chair in a contemplative and his usual posture, one hand supporting his head, the other hanging over the arm of the chair, and underneath the following inscription:

" FRANCISCUS BACON,

" *Baro de Verulam, Sancti Albani Vicecomes;*

" *Seu notioribus titulis,*

" *Scientiarum Lumen, Facundiæ Lex,*

" *Sic sedebat.*

" *Que postquam omnia naturalis sapientiæ,*

" *Et civilis arcana evolvisset,*

" *Naturæ Decretum Explevit,*

" *Composita Solvantur;*

" *Anno Domini, M.DC.XXVI.*

" *Ætatis LXVI.*

" *Tanti Viri*

" *Mem.*

" THOMAS MEAUTYS,

" *Superstitis Cultor,*

" *Defuncti Admirator.*

" H. P."

Which may be thus translated:

FRANCIS BACON,

Baron of Verulam, Viscount St. Alban's;

Or, by more conspicuous Titles,

Of Sciences the Light, of Eloquence the Law,

Sat thus.

Who, after all natural Wisdom,

And secrets of civil Life he had unfolded,

Nature's Law fulfilled,

*Let Compounds be dissolved,*

In the Year of our Lord, M.DC.XXVI.

Of his Age, LXVI.

To the Memory of so great a Man,  
 THOMAS MEAUTYS,  
 Living his Attendant,  
 Dead his Admirer,  
 Hath placed this Monument.

The town of St. Alban's is built in an irregular manner, but the situation is pleasant and healthy, and there are many good inns in the place for the accommodation of travellers, it being on the great north road to Coventry, Birmingham, Chester, Nottingham, Derby, &c. There were besides the abbey, a small nunnery in this town, with several chapels and chantries; but they are all entirely demolished.—The late Dutchess of Marlborough built a fine house in the neighbourhood of this town, which now belongs to her great great grandson, the present Earl Spencer. She likewise built some good alms-houses, and a charity-school for children.

The town is a particular district of itself, and its jurisdiction extends over several towns and parishes, even as far as Barnet. It has sent members to parliament from the earliest times, and is governed by a mayor, high-steward, recorder, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four assistants. The weekly market is on Saturday, and here are three fairs annually, viz. on the 25th of March, on the 17th of June, and on the 29th of September.

HATFIELD is nineteen miles from London, and was formerly called *Bishop's Hatfield*, from its belonging to the Bishops of Ely. Here was once a royal palace, from whence both Edward the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth were conducted to the throne. It is a place of great antiquity; for it appears from our historians, that an ecclesiastical synod was held here in the year 681. The church is a venerable Gothic structure, built in the form of a cross; and at the end of the chancel is an ancient chapel. On the west end is a tower, and in it a ring of five large bells. There are many curious monuments in this church, and the living is reckoned one of the richest in England. The town does not contain any remarkable buildings, nor is it very populous; but here are two charity-schools, well endowed. Here is a weekly market on Thursday, and two annual fairs, one on the 23d of April, and another on the 18th of October.



WARE is twenty-one miles distant from London, and situated in a valley on the east side of the river Lea. It is said, that some strolling parties of the Danes sailed up this river from the Thames, in small open boats, and infested this part of the country. They likewise built a fort here, to secure themselves from the army of Alfred, and for its better defence, raised the water so high, by a great dam, or, as they called it, a *Weare*, that it was with great difficulty the English could dislodge them. And from this circumstance we are told the town received its name. This place is a considerable thoroughfare, being one of the best post-towns in the north road. Ware was founded in the year 914, and began to be of some note in the reign of King John, when the high road to the north, which before went through Hertford, was by procurement of Sayer de Quincy, then lord of the manor, turned through this town. It consists of one street, about a mile in length, with several back streets and lanes, well inhabited. The church is large, built in the form of a cross, and has a handsome gallery, erected by the governors of Christ's Hospital in London, who send several of the children of that hospital hither, either for health or education. Besides a charity-school, here are seven alms-houses, well endowed. At the Bull inn, in this town, there is a famous bed, much visited by travellers from London and other places; it is said to be twelve feet square, and capable of containing twenty couple. This town is a great market for corn and malt; five thousand quarters of malt are often sent in a week to London by the barges, which generally return with coals. The market is on Tuesday, and here are two fairs held, one on the last Tuesday in April, and the other on the Tuesday before St. Matthew's day.

HODDESDON is a considerable town, seventeen miles from London. It is a considerable thoroughfare, and a place of great antiquity, and is a good market for all sorts of corn. Queen Elizabeth, by a charter, granted a grammar-school to this town, and endowed it with certain privileges; and an alms-house was founded here in the reign of King Henry the Sixth, by Richard Rich, sheriff of London, and ancestor to the late Earls of Warwick. Here are the ruins of an ancient chapel: but by whom it was built does not appear, only that it belonged to an hospital for leprous persons, which is now  
totally

totally demolished. The weekly market is held on Thursday, and here is a fair for toys on the 29th of July.

RICKMANSWORTH is nineteen miles from London. It is situated in a low moorish soil on the borders of Buckinghamshire, near the river Coln. It has a market on Saturday, and is governed by a constable and two headboroughs. The several mills on the streams near this town, cause a great quantity of wheat to be brought to it. Here is a charity-school for twenty boys and ten girls, with an alms-house for five widows, and another for four.—In the neighbourhood is a warren-hill, where the sound of a trumpet is repeated twelve times by the echo.

WATFORD is sixteen miles from London. It is situated on the river Coln, where it has two streams that run separately to Rickmansworth. The town is very long, but consists of only one street, which is extremely dirty in winter, and the waters of the river at the entrance of the town, were frequently so much swelled by floods as to be impassable; but in the year 1750 the road at the entrance of Watford was raised by a voluntary contribution, by which means the river is now confined within its proper bounds. In the church are several handsome monuments; there are also a free-school and several alms-houses belonging to the town.

BARNET, which is eleven miles from London, is sometimes called *High Barnet*, from its situation on a hill; and was also formerly called *Chipping* or *Cheaping Barnet*, from King Henry the Second's granting the monks of St. Alban's the privilege of holding a market here, the word *Cheap* or *Chepe*, being an ancient word for a market. It is at present a great thoroughfare, being situated in the road to St. Alban's, and the first stage on the great north road. It has several good inns, with a great number of public houses; and many considerable farmers live in the neighbourhood.

The town is long, and the church, which stands in the middle of it, is a very ancient structure. Here is a free-school, founded by Queen Elizabeth, and endowed partly by that Princess, and partly by Alderman Owen, of London, whose additional endowment is paid by the Fishmongers Company. Here is also an alms-house, founded and endowed by James Ravenscroft, Esq; for six widows. But what Barnet is most noted for at present



present is its races in the month of August, which last three days, and are frequented by a great number of all ranks of people from London. The weekly market at Barnet is on Monday, and it has two annual fairs, each of which holds three days; the first is on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of April; and the second on the 4th, 5th, and 6th, of September, for Welch and Scotch cattle.

Barnet is famous for being the place where the decisive battle was fought between the houses of York and Lancaster, on Easter-day, 1471, in which the great Earl of Warwick, stiled *The King-maker*, was slain, with many others of the principal nobility. The place supposed to be the field of battle, is a green spot, a little before the meeting of St. Alban's and Hatfield roads; and here, in the year 1740, an obelisk was erected by Sir Jeremy Sambrooke, on which is the following inscription:

" Here was  
 " Fought the  
 " Famous BATTLE  
 " Between EDWARD  
 " the 4th, and the  
 " Earl of WARWICK,  
 " April the 14th,  
 " Anno 1471,  
 " In which the Earl  
 " Was defeated  
 " And slain."

TRING is thirty-one miles from London, and is situated at the western extremity of the county, where it joins with Buckinghamshire. It is a place of considerable antiquity, as appears from Doomsday book, wherein it is mentioned as a royal demesne, and as such it was given by William the Norman to his favourite, Robert Earl of Ewe. The town, though small, is extremely neat, with some very handsome houses in it; and the church is a venerable Gothic structure, the inside of which has been neatly wainscotted, at the expence of Mr. Gore. This gentleman, who is lord of the manor, has enclosed a park, near the town, containing three hundred acres of land, and in it a fine plantation of trees, resembling a wood. Here is a charity school for teaching and cloathing twenty boys, supported by subscription. At a village called *Little Tring*, in this

this parish, rises one of the heads of the river Thames. Tring is a considerable market for corn, of which there are here very large granaries.

In 1751, John Osborne, and his wife Ruth, both poor aged people, were dragged to a deep pond near this town, and there ducked, by a large mob assembled for that purpose, who had ignorantly supposed that this couple were a witch and wizzard. They stripped them both naked, tied their thumbs and great toes together, and in that manner threw them three different times into the pond; but the poor woman, who was seventy years of age, died in the water. They then took John Osborne to a neighbouring house, where they laid him in a bed, and the body of his murdered wife beside him, after which they dispersed to their own homes. But Thomas Colley, the ringleader of the mob was afterwards apprehended, and tried for murder at Hertford. He was found guilty, and executed at Tring, his body being hung in chains.

BERKHAMSTED is twenty-seven miles from London. It was anciently a Roman town, and Roman coins have often been dug up here. Some of the Saxon kings kept their courts, and held their great councils at this place. William the Norman swore here to the English nobility, that he would preserve the laws made by his predecessors. Robert de Morton, Earl of Cornwall, built a castle on the north side of this town, the remains of which are converted into a gentleman's seat.

Henry the Second kept his court here, and granted the town several privileges, particularly that its merchandize should pass free of toll or custom through England, Normandy, Aquitain, and Anjou, and that no judicial process should be executed by any of the King's officers, within its liberties, but only by its own high steward, coroner, and bailiffs; that no market should be kept within seven miles of it, and that the inhabitants should not be obliged to attend at any assizes or sessions. In the reign of Henry the Third it was a borough, and in the fourteenth of King Edward the Third sent members to parliament. There are no less than fifty-three townships belonging to the manor, which derives its name from the town, which are obliged to pay homage, and chuse constables here. Of these townships there are eleven in this county, fifteen in Buckinghamshire, and twenty-seven in Northamptonshire. King James the First, to whose children this place was a nursery, made it a corporation, by



by the name of bailiffs and burgesſes of Berkhamſtead St. Peter; the burgesſes to be twelve, to chuſe a recorder and town-clerk, and to have a priſon: but the corporation was ſo impoverished by the civil wars in the next reign, that the government dropped, and has not ſince been renewed.

The ſituation of Berkhamſtead is extremely pleaſing, being built on the ſide of a hill, chiefly conſiſting of a good ſtreet of conſiderable length. The church is a ſpacious Gothic edifice, dedicated to St. Peter, and has many chapels and oratories, where maſs uſed to be ſaid in the times of Popery. On the pillars of the church are eleven of the apoſtles, and over each of them a ſentence of the creed; and on the twelfth pillar is St. George killing the dragon. Here is an alms-houſe built by Mr. John Sayre and his wife, who endowed it with 1300*l.* for the maintenance of ſix poor widows. Here is alſo a charity ſchool, and a free grammar-ſchool; the grammar-ſchool is a handſome brick ſtructure, and is well endowed, the King being patron, and the warden of All Souls College in Oxford, viſitor.

HEMPSTED is four miles from Berkhamſtead, and twenty-three from London. It was incorporated by King Henry the Eighth. It is governed by a bailiff, and the inhabitants are empowered to have a common ſeal, and a pye powder court, during its markets and fairs. It is pleaſantly ſituated on a ſmall river, called *The Gade*, and ſurrounded with hills. The church, which ſtands at a little diſtance from the town, is an ancient Gothic ſtructure, with a ſquare tower, and a fine ſpire. The market here is the greateſt in Hertfordſhire for wheat; and twenty thouſand pounds is ſaid to be often returned weekly for meal. There are eleven mills ſtand within four miles of the place, which bring a great trade to it.

STEVENAGE is a ſmall but ancient market-town ſituated in the great north road, at the diſtance of thirty-one miles from London. The church was built upon a dry ſandy hill; the houſes in the town are but indifferent; but there is a good free-ſchool, with an ancient hoſpital, and ſeveral alms-houſes.

A little to the ſouth of this town are the remains of an old camp, by ſome ſuppoſed to have been made by the Romans, although others have aſcribed it to the Danes; and there is a place near it ſtill known by the name of *Danes End*.

STANDON is a small town on the river Rib, twenty-seven miles from London. It has an handsome church, and several endowments for a school and for the poor.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD is thirty miles from London, and thirteen from Stevenage. It derives its name from a ford over the river Stort, at the bottom of the town, which, ever since the time of William the Norman, has belonged to the Bishops of London. King John made this a corporation town, with power to chuse its own officers, and it formerly sent members to parliament, but has long ago lost that privilege. The Bishop of London appoints a bailiff here for what is called his liberty, and to him are directed sheriff's warrants to be executed in this and several of the neighbouring parishes. The bishop holds his court leet and baron at the manor of Padmore, at the north end of the town.

This is a considerable, well-built place, full of good inns, being a thoroughfare to Cambridge, Newmarket, and several towns in Suffolk. It consists of four streets, in the form of a cross, pointing east, west, north, and south. It has a church, which stands on a hill, in the middle of the town, with an handsome tower, a fine ring of eight bells, and a spire, covered with lead, fifty feet high. This church had an organ as long ago as the time of Henry the Seventh, and is thought to be very ancient, because in one of the windows were the names and pictures of King Athelstan, St. Edward, and King Edward. Here are two alms-houses and a grammar-school; the school was built about half a century ago, by the contributions of the gentry both of this county and Essex. It stands in the high street, upon arches, underwhich are shops and a market; it fronts the church-yard, and consists of three rooms, which, with the stair-case, make a square building; the front to the street is the grammar-school, and the two wings are the writing-school and library, to which every scholar, when he leaves the school, gives a book.

BUNTINGFORD is a small town, situated at the ford of a small river called *The Rib*, in the post road to Cambridge, at the distance of thirty-one miles from London. It stands in four parishes, in one of which, called Layston, is a chapelry. The chapel is an handsome brick structure, finished in 1626. Here is a sumptuous alms-house, founded and endowed by Dr. Seth Ward, bishop of Salisbury, for four ancient men, and as many ancient women,

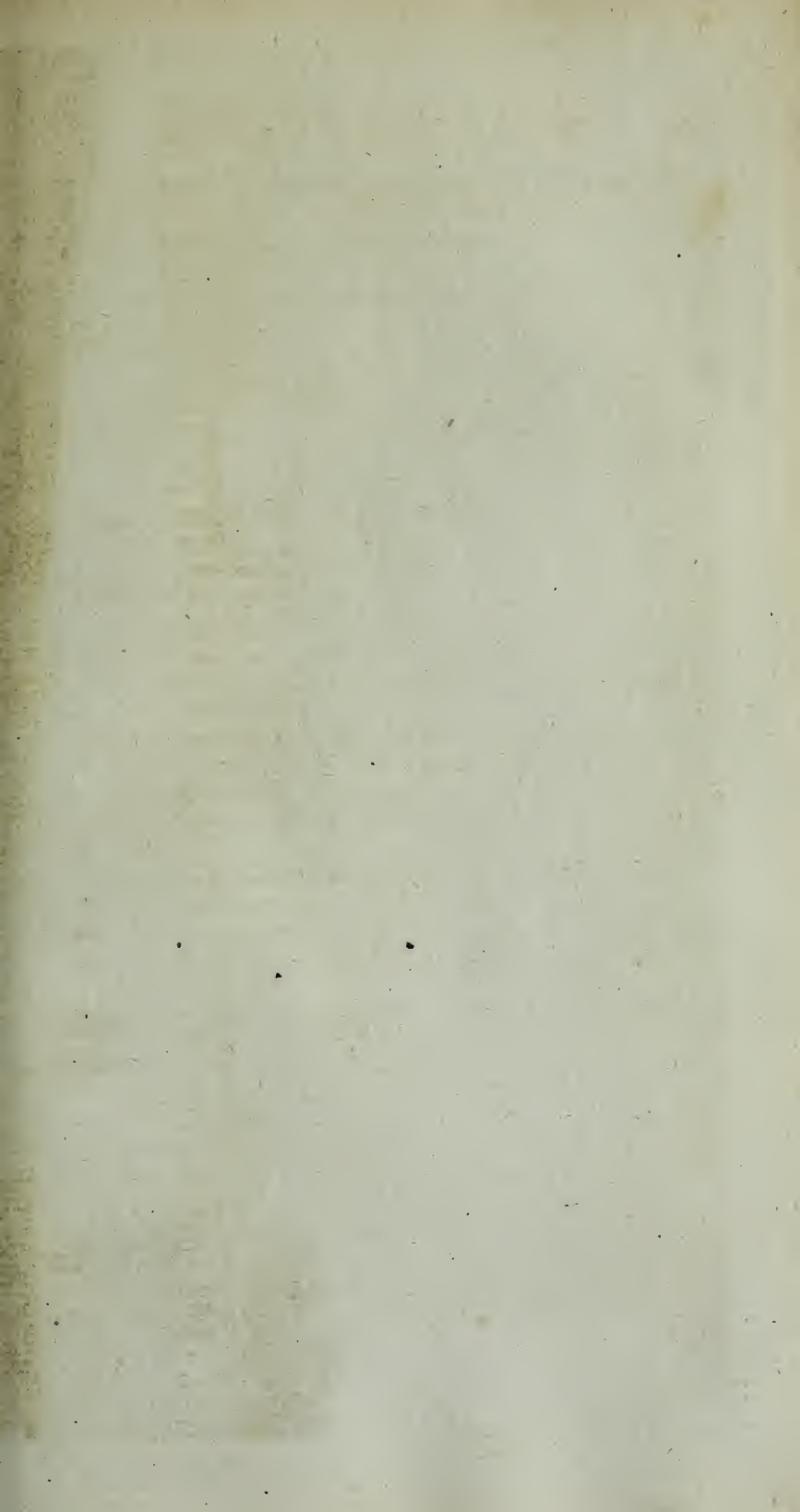


men, who, from a state of affluence, were reduced by misfortunes to poverty. Each man and each woman has an apartment consisting of four rooms, two above and two below, with every convenience that can be reasonably wished for or expected. An estate was also left for their support, by the same prelate. There is a free grammar-school in this town, wherein Bishop Ward was educated, he being a native of this place; he gave four scholarships, of twelve pounds a year, to Christ's College, in Cambridge, to be enjoyed by four scholars, natives of Hertfordshire, who were educated at this school, till they were masters of arts.

BARKWAY is a flourishing and populous town, at the distance of thirty-five miles from London, and being a considerable thoroughfare in the north road, contains some good inns. The church in this town is an handsome Gothic structure, and several of the windows in it are painted; and in one of them is an absurd and superstitious representation of the Deity creating the world, which is a disgrace to a Protestant church.

BALDOCK is thirty-seven miles from London, and stands between two hills, in a chalky soil, fit for corn. It is a pretty large town, and in the middle of it is an handsome church, with three chancels, and a beautiful tower. Among other benefactions to the poor of the place, Mr. John Winne gave 11,000*l.* to build six alms-houses, and to purchase lands to raise an annuity of forty shillings a piece to every poor person settled in them. Here are many maltsters, and the market of this town is very considerable both for corn and malt.

HITCHING is one of the best built and most populous towns in this county. It stands in a pleasant valley at the distance of thirty-four miles from London; and is governed by a bailiff and four constables, two for the town, and two for the out-parts. It is divided into the three wards of Bencroft, Bridge, and Tilt-house. It is said to have been formerly one of the greatest places of inland trade in England, and many merchants both from France and Flanders resided here to purchase our commodities, and to dispose of their own. Here is an handsome church, 153 feet long and 67 broad, with three chancels. Here is a free-school, a charity school, and eight alms-houses. Large quantities of malt are made in this town,  
and







and it is a great market for all sorts of grain. There is a meeting here for Protestant Dissenters.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

Near Rickmansworth, on the left, is *Moor Park*, which was the seat of Lord Anson, but at present belongs to Sir Thomas Dundas, Baronet. The park is not large, but is very beautiful, whether we consider it within itself, or with regard to the fine and extensive prospects from it. The house was originally built by Cardinal Wolsey, and passing through many hands, was afterwards in the possession of the Duke of Monmouth. Then it came into the hands of Mr. Stiles, who enlarged, repaired, and beautified it, under the direction of Sir James Thornhill. It stands on a hill, not quite on the summit. It is of stone, of the Corinthian order; and, if not in the highest stile of architecture, is yet very noble. The south, or principal front, has a portico and pediment of four columns. The offices are joined to the house by a beautiful circular colonade of the Ionic order, which terminates very elegantly with domes on each side their entrance. On the back front of the house is a lawn of about thirty acres, absolutely flat; with falls below it on one hand, and heights above it on the other. The rising ground is divided into three great parts, each so distinct, and so different, as to have the effect of several hills. That nearest to the house shelves gently under an open grove of noble trees, which hang on the declivity, and advance beyond it on the plain. The next is a large hill, pressing forward, and covered with wood from the top to the bottom. The third is a bold steep, with a thicker falling down the steepest part, which makes it appear still more precipitate; but the rest of the slope is bare, only the brow is crowned with wood, and towards the bottom is a little group of trees. These heights, thus characterised in themselves, are further distinguished by their appendages. The small compact group near the foot, but still on the descent of the further hill, is contrasted by a large straggling clump, some way out upon the lawn, before the middle eminence. Between this and the first hill, under two or three trees which cross the opening, is seen to great advantage a winding glade, which rises beyond them, and marks



the separation. This deep recess, the different distances to which the hills advance, the contrast in their forms, and their accompaniments, cast the plain on this side into the most beautiful figure. The other side and the end were originally the flat edge of a descent, a harsh, offensive termination; but it is now broken by several hillocks, not diminutive in size, and considerable by the fine clumps which distinguish them. They recede one beyond another, and the outline waves agreeably amongst them. They do more than conceal the sharpness of the edge; they convert a deformity into a beauty, and greatly contribute to the embellishment of this most lovely scene; a scene, however, in which the flat is principal; and yet a more varied, a more beautiful landscape, can hardly be desired in a garden.

The palace of *Theobalds*, (situated in the village of Theobalds) in which King James the First much delighted, now belongs to the Duke of Portland, who lets it out in tenements. This palace, which was very magnificent, was originally built by the great Lord Burleigh; and Hentzner, who has given a description of it in his *Itinerarium*, says, that the gallery was painted with the genealogy of the Kings of England, and from thence was a descent into the garden, which was encompassed with a ditch filled with water, and large enough to have the pleasure of rowing in a boat between the shrubs. It was adorned with a great variety of trees and plants, labyrinths made with much labour, a *jet d'eau*, with its basin of white marble, and with columns and pyramids. In the summer-house, the lower part of which was built semicircularly, were the twelve Roman Emperors in white marble, and a table of touchstone: the upper part of it was set round with leaden cisterns, into which water was conveyed through pipes.

This seat the Lord Burleigh gave to his younger son Sir Robert Cecil, in whose time King James the First staying there for one night's refreshment, as he was coming to take possession of the crown of England, he was so delighted with the place that he gave him the manor of Hatfield Regis in exchange for it, and afterwards enlarged the park, and encompassed it with a wall ten miles round. The palace he often visited, in order to enjoy the pleasure of hunting in Enfield Chase and Epping Forest, and at last died there.

In

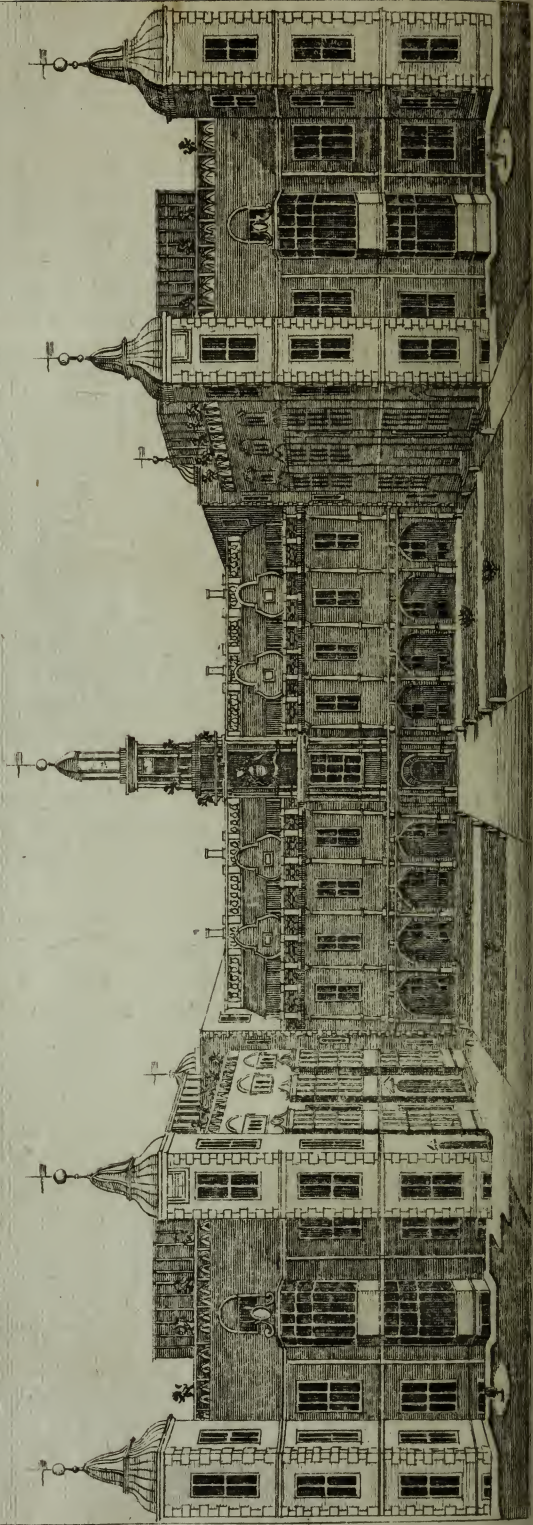












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In the civil wars it was however plundered and defaced, it being the place from whence King Charles the First set out to erect his standard at Nottingham. King Charles the Second granted the manor to George Monk, Duke of Albemarle; but it reverting again to the crown, for want of heirs male, King William the Third gave it to William Bentinck, whom he created Earl of Portland, from whom it descended to the Duke his grandson. The great park, a part of which was in Hertfordshire, and a part in Middlesex, is now converted into farms.

*Casbiobury Park* is a little beyond Watford, on the left, and is said to have been the seat of the Kings of Mercia during the Heptarchy, till Offa gave it to the monastery of St. Albans. Henry the Eighth bestowed it on Richard Morison, Esq; from whom it passed to Arthur Lord Capel, Baron of Hadham, and from him came by inheritance to be the manor of the Earls of Essex, who have here a noble seat in the form of the letter H, with a large park, adorned with fine woods and walks. The gardens were planted and laid out by Le Notre, in the reign of King Charles the Second. The front and one side are of brick, and modern; the other side is very old, and by no means corresponding with the other parts of the house. In the front of the house is a fine dry lawn, which, immediately after the heaviest rains, may be rode or walked on as on the driest downs; and a little below the house is a river, which winds through the park, and in the driest seasons constantly runs with a fine stream, affording plenty of trout, cray-fish, and other kinds of fresh water fish. The woods have many large beech and oak trees in them, but the principal walks are planted with lime trees.

*Gorhambury*, a little to the west of St. Alban's, was formerly the paternal estate of the great Lord Bacon, concerning whom we have lately spoken, and is now the seat of the Lord Viscount Grimston. There is here a statue of Henry the Eighth, with a collection of pictures worthy a traveller's curiosity.

The Earl of Salisbury has a noble seat near Hatfield, built by the great Lord Burleigh, called *Hatfield House*. The park and gardens, in which is a vineyard, is watered by the river Lea.

*Cawley*



*Cawley Wood*, belonging to the Duke of Bridgewater, is a small covert, about a mile from Little Gaddeſden. It ſtands on the top of a hill, and is one of the greateſt landmarks in the ſouth of England, overlooking eleven counties. It ſtands as a monument to ſhow that nature will not be outdone by art.

About a mile north-weſt from Barnet is *Derehams*, which was the ſeat of the late Earl of Albemarle.

*Penley Lodge* is a delightful retirement to a man who wants to deceive life, in an habitation which has all the charms nature can give. Behind is a large common of fine turf, bounded by a wood on the weſt, which commands a view of Northamptonſhire and Warwickſhire. From the houſe is a ſemi-circular proſpect of Bedfordſhire, Middleſex, and Buckinghamſhire, and a bended one towards Ivingo and Aldbury cliffs, with the ſhady woods of Leeds and Bridgewater ſeeming to hang over the rivulet called *Bulborn*.

The village of *Hunſdon*, which is ſituated on the river Stort, was ſo much eſteemed in former times for its healthy ſituation, that King Henry the Eighth erected a houſe here, to which he often reſorted, and in which he had his children brought up. It ſtands on a high hill, from whence there is a moſt delightful proſpect; and underneath are meadows, with the river winding in the moſt agreeable manner. Near it is the houſe where the royal children received their education, which is now the ſeat of a private gentleman. The gardens are laid out with great taſte, and there is a large baſon, from whence water is conveyed to the different plantations in the gardens.

*Elſtree*, *Idleſtree*, or *Eagleſtree* (for it has been called by all theſe names), a village near Barnet, upon the borders of Middleſex, is thought by Norden to have been the ſtation of Sulloniacæ, mentioned by Antoninus in his Itinerary, as at the diſtance of twelve miles from London; but Mr. Camden and Biſhop Giſbon think it was at Brockley Hill, in this neighbourhood, many coins, urns, Roman bricks, and other antiquities, having been dug up there.

*Totteridge* has been adorned with fine ſeats belonging to the citizens of London, from the time of King James the  
Firſt.

First. The Saxons gave it the name from its situation on the top of a hill. There was anciently a monastery here.

*Cheshunt* is a very agreeable village fourteen miles from London, and many of the citizens have their country seats here. The Ermine-street, or Roman military way, passes near it, and in a field to the north-west are the remains of a strong camp. It is raised in an oblong form with deep ditches, but most of them are now filled up. There was formerly a Benedictine nunnery here, dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and Edward the Third gave this village the privilege of keeping a weekly market, but it is now discontinued.

*Theobalds* is a most pleasant village, near Cheshunt, wherein are many fine seats belonging to the citizens of London.—In this neighbourhood Richard Cromwell, who had been Protector, but abdicated, passed the last part of his life, in a very private manner.

Near Ware is a spot of ground called *Lemon Field*, where three Roman wine vessels were dug up in 1729. These vessels were of a pale reddish earth, and of the form of the Roman amphora, with two handles, and pointed at the bottom, for the purpose of fixing them in the ground. They were eighteen inches below the surface, and full of earth and chalk-stones of the neighbouring soil. Many human bodies have been dug up hereabouts, but though the ground around them is black, they appear not to have been burnt, and seem by their shallow burial, to have been the relics of a battle.

On the south of Ware is the village of *Amwell*, where the New River takes its rise.

About four miles from Hemsted is *King's Langley*, which is a large and pleasant village, where King Edward the Third built a fine palace, wherein he often resided, of which some part still remains. And here his fifth son Edmund, commonly called De Langley, was born; and this prince, with his wife Isabel, daughter of Don Pedro, King of Castile, lies buried in this church, which is a venerable Gothic structure.

*Abbot's*



*Abbot's Langley* is another agreeable village in the neighbourhood of Hempssted, which belonged to the abbey of St. Albans. The church is an handsome edifice, situated in the middle of the village, and at the west end is a fine tower. This was the birth place of Nicholas Breakespeare, who was elected Pope under the name of Adrian the Fourth.

*Redburne* is a village on the high road leading to Dunstable, which contains many handsome houses, and several good inns; for being a great thoroughfare, the waggons from Birmingham, Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton, and many other places, put up at it the night before they reach London. It is an agreeable place, and was formerly much frequented by devotees, on account of the pretended relics of Amphibalus, a martyr, who is said to have preached the gospel here in the third century.

*Flamstead*, on the left hand of the road, about four miles beyond Redburne, was formerly a market town, and had several fairs; but they are discontinued. The church is a venerable Gothic structure, situate on a hill, with a square tower and a lofty spire, which are seen at a great distance. The church has three isles, and in them are several ancient monuments.

The village of *Braughing*, which is at a little distance from Buntingford, was considered as a place of great importance when the Romans were in Britain; and by many is supposed to be the *Casseromagum* of Antoninus. There are near it the ruins of a Roman camp, which appears to have been strongly fortified, and many coins have been dug up near it. The church in this village is a very handsome edifice. Near the church-yard is an old house, at present inhabited by poor families, but which was originally designed for a very different purpose. Some centuries ago, a person of fortune, whose name is not at present known, built this house, and endowed it with a sufficient salary to defray the expences attending the weddings of the poorer sort of people in the parish. It contained all sorts of necessary furniture, with a large kitchen, a cauldron for boiling meat, and spits for what they intended to roast. Here was also a large room for merriment,  
a lodging-room,

a lodging-room with a bride-bed and good linen ; some of which furniture was in being a few years ago.

The village of *Hexton*, near Hitching, is remarkable for a bloody battle fought between the Saxons and Danes, wherein it is supposed some persons of considerable note were slain, because there are several funeral monuments near the place. There is also at a little distance from hence a very strong camp, which is conjectured to have been thrown up by the Danes, to defend themselves in case of their being defeated, until they received fresh succours from their countrymen. It is raised in an oblong manner, and so strongly fortified both by nature and art, that a thousand men might defend themselves in it against a considerable army.

A little to the south of Hexton is a fine piece of ground, called *Lilibo*, on a rising ground, where horse-races are held, and from whence there is an extensive and beautiful prospect.





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## HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

**T**HIS is one of the least counties in England, and is bounded on the north and west sides by Northamptonshire, on the east by Cambridgeshire, and on the south by Bedfordshire. It is about twenty-five miles in length, twenty in breadth, and seventy in circumference; contains six market-towns, seventy-nine parishes, two hundred and seventy-nine villages, and about two hundred and forty thousand acres. When the Romans invaded Britain, this county was a part of the district inhabited by those warlike people, named *The Icenæ*; but when the Saxons settled in the island, it became, with some other counties, part of the kingdom of East Anglia; and from those people it is supposed to have derived its present name.

The air of this county is rendered less wholesome than that of some other counties, by the great number of fens, meers, and other standing waters, with which it abounds, especially in the north part. The soil is in general very fruitful. In the hilly parts, or dry lands, it yields great crops of corn, and affords excellent pasture for sheep; and in the lower lands the meadows are exceedingly rich, and feed abundance of fine cattle, not only for slaughter, but for the dairy; and the cheese made at a village called *Stilton*, near Yaxley, known by the name of *Stilton Cheese*, is usually stiled *The Parmesan of England*.

The inhabitants of Huntingdonshire are well supplied with fish and water-fowl, by the rivers and meers; but they have scarcely any firing besides turf.

The chief rivers in this county are the Ouse and the Nen.—The Ouse rises near Brackley in Northamptonshire, and running north-east through Bedfordshire, enters this county at St. Neot's; from thence, in the same direction, it runs by Huntingdon, and some other towns, and traversing Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk, and being joined by  
several

Several other rivers in its course, it falls into the German Ocean near Lynn Regis.—The Nen rises near Daventry, and running north-east, and almost parallel to the river Ouse, winds round the north-west and north boundaries of this county, where it forms several large bodies of water, called by the inhabitants *Meers*. The first of these meers or lakes is that called *Whittlesey Meer*, not far from Peterborough. This meer is no less than six miles long, and three broad. Other considerable meers formed here by this river, are Ug Meer, Brick Meer, Ramsey Meer, and Benwick Meer, from whence the river Nen, continuing its course through Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire, falls into the German Ocean not far from Wisbeach, in the county of Cambridge.

This county, which lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Lincoln, is divided into four hundreds, and with Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely, is under one sheriff. This sheriff is chosen out of each of these places by rotation. Huntingdonshire sends four members to parliament, two of which are for the county.

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## M A R K E T - T O W N S

HUNTINGDON, which is fifty-seven miles from London, is the chief town of the whole county, and gives name to it. The name is immediately derived from the Saxon *Huntandune*, or *Hunter's Down*, an appellation which this place acquired from its conveniency for hunting, this district being one entire forest, till it was disforested by the Kings Henry the Second and Third, and finally by King Edward the First, who left no more of it forest than his own ground. This town is incorporated by the style of a mayor, twelve aldermen and burgesses. The assizes are constantly held here twice a year, and here is the county gaol. There were once fifteen churches here, which in Camden's time were reduced to four, and there are now but two. This place is said to have suffered by the villainy of one Grey, who, according to Speed, maliciously obstructed the navigation of the river Ouse to the town; but this river is still navigable by small vessels as high as Bedford. The town stands on a little hill that rises on the north side of the river. It is a thoroughfare in the great north



road, and is still a populous trading town. It consists chiefly of one long street, pretty well built, and has an handsome market-place and a good grammar-school. There are not more beautiful meadows any where than on the banks of the river hereabouts, which, in the summer season are covered with such numerous herds of cattle, and flocks of sheep, as is almost incredible. The bridge, or rather bridges over the river, with the causeway, are ornaments, as well as benefits to the town.—Oliver Cromwell was born in the parish of St. John in this town, and educated in the free-school here.

ST. IVES is sixty-four miles from London, and is a large handsome town. It is said to derive its name from a Persian Bishop, who, about the year 600, came over to England, preached the gospel, and died at this place. It appears from an old Saxon coin in *The Philosophical Transactions*, that it had formerly a mint: it was also once noted for its medicinal waters. The town is pleasantly situated on the river Ouse, over which it has an handsome stone bridge. Here is a good market for fatted cattle, brought from the north.

ST. NEOT'S is sixty-eight miles from London, and is so called from a monastery of the same name, in this place, which was burnt by the Danes. It is a large, well-built town, situated on the river Ouse, over which there is a fine stone bridge, which makes it very commodious to the whole county; for as coals are brought to this place by water, they are conveyed from hence to all the adjacent parts. Its church is a very large, strong, and handsome building, and the steeple is esteemed a master-piece in its kind.

KIMBOLTON is the *Kinnibantum* of the Romans, and the modern name is supposed to be only a variation of the ancient. It is sixty-four miles from London, and was formerly a considerable place, but is at present much decayed. The situation of the town is pleasant, but it contains scarcely any thing remarkable, except its castle, which is the seat of the Duke of Manchester, and of which we shall speak more particularly hereafter.—Between Kimbolton, and Thrapston in Northamptonshire, which towns are about eleven miles distant, the country is extremely pleasant, and most delightfully scattered with villages and churches; so that from one level plain,

plain, which rises above the surrounding country, twelve steeples may be seen with ease.

RAMSEY is sixty-eight miles from London, and is a very ancient town, but is now much decayed. It is every where encompassed with fens, except upon the west side, where it joins with the *terra firma* by a causeway, two miles long, inclosed with alders, reeds, and bulrushes, that in the spring make a beautiful appearance, to which the gardens, corn fields, and pastures adjoining, are no small addition. This town was formerly of great note, being proverbially called *Ramsay the rich*, before the dissolution of a wealthy abbey, founded by Alwin, Earl of the East Angles, which stood in this place, the abbots of which were mitred, and sat in parliament. There is little now left of the abbey, except a part of the old gatehouse, and a neglected statue of its founder; the keys and ragged staff in his hand denote his offices. This is reckoned a most ancient piece of English sculpture.—This town has one of the best and cheapest markets in England for water-fowl. The neighbouring meers abound with fowl and fish, particularly eels and large pikes called *Hakeds*. There is a causeway called *King's Delf*, raised and paved at a great expence, which runs ten miles from this place to Peterborough.

YAXLEY is at the distance of seventy-six miles from London, and is a small but well-built town, situated in the fens, with a handsome Gothic church, and a lofty spire seen at a great distance.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

*Kimbolton Castle*, the seat of the Duke of Manchester, is situated close to the town of that name. It is a quadrangular building: the hall is fifty feet long by twenty-five broad, and hung round with family portraits, some of which are very good.

On the right hand of the hall is the blue drawing-room, thirty-five feet by twenty. Over the chimney hangs a very fine picture of Prometheus, the expression of which is very great. Between the windows are six small portraits, excellently done.

In



In the yellow drawing room, which is thirty-five feet by twenty-two, with an handsome glass lustre in the centre, there is an admirable portrait of Lord Holland, and some other paintings.

The saloon is forty feet by twenty-seven, and is hung with crimson velvet. It has handsome pillars in two corners, and the slabs are of various marbles in Mosaic. Over the chimney is a picture of Hector and Andromache.

The state bed-chamber is hung with cut velvet. The pier glasses and slab glasses came from Venice. In the closet is a Magdalen; and through the stair-case is a small room hung with very fine drawings, after Raphael, and Julio Romano.

At *Hinchinbroke*, near Huntingdon, the Earl of Sandwich has a fine seat. In this house is one of the most magnificent rooms in England. The gardens are fine, and well kept.—A nunnery was built here, and endowed, by William the Norman.

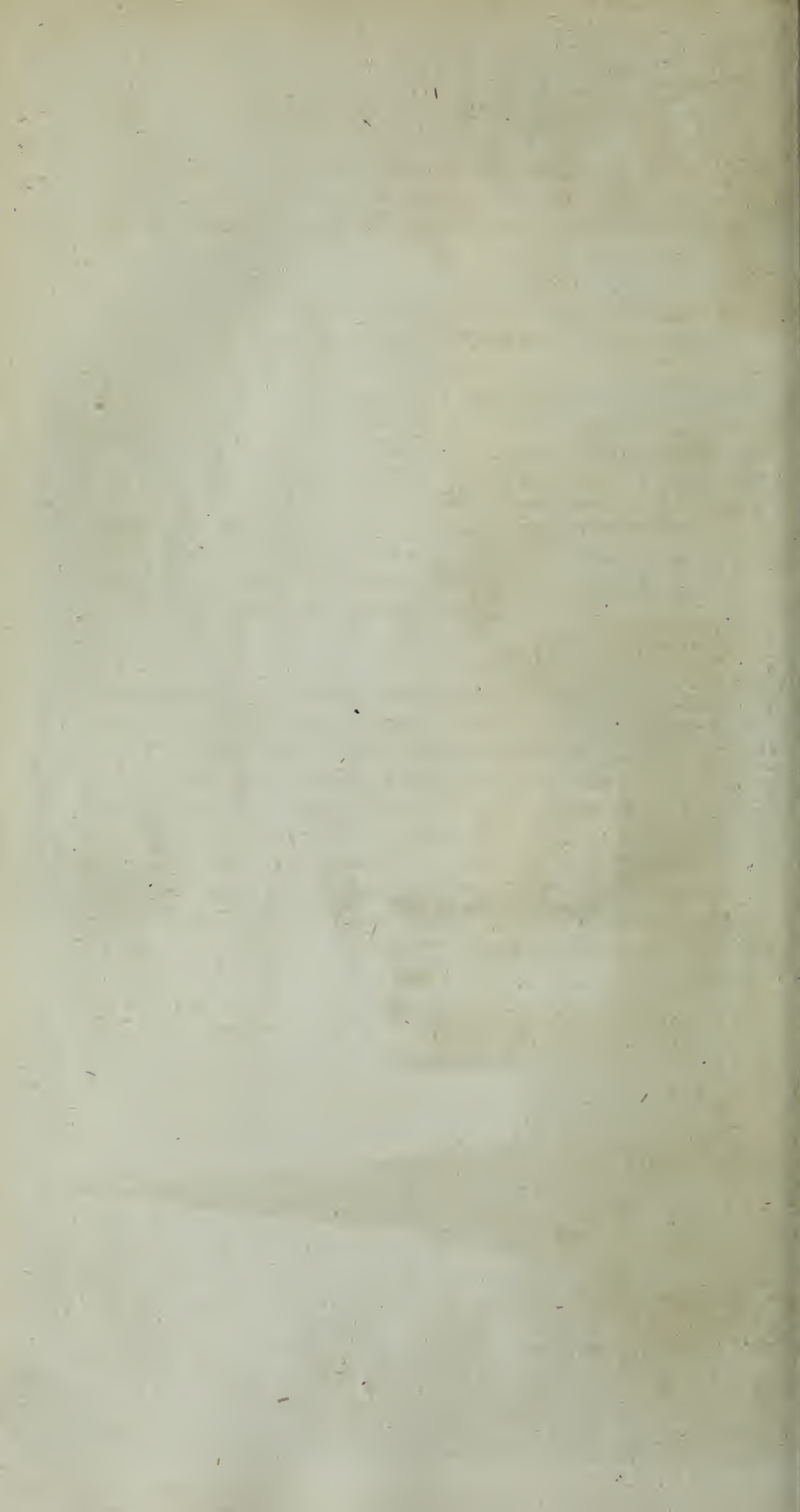
About three miles from Huntingdon is *Buckden Palace*, the episcopal seat of the Bishop of Lincoln. The Bishop has a pretty little chapel here, with an organ so well painted against the wall, in a seeming organ loft, that at first a stranger would think it to be real.

A mile out of the road at *Connington*, was the seat of Sir Robert Cotton, the learned friend of the great Camden. The house was built in a magnificent manner of hewn stone, but now lies in dismal ruins. By it is a beautiful church, with a tower, and in the window is fine painted glass.—In this parish are to be seen, within a square ditch, the relics of an ancient castle, which was given by King Canute to Turkhill, a Danish lord, who called in Sueno, King of Denmark, to plunder the nation.

*Godmanchester* is a place of great antiquity, and although no market-town, yet is esteemed one of the largest villages in England. The inhabitants of this place are famous for their skill in husbandry, and it is said that no town employs so many ploughs. When King James the First came through it from Scotland, the inhabitants met him with seventy new ones, drawn by as many teams of horses, for they hold their  
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land by that tenure: and we are told, that on the like occasion there has been a procession of one hundred and eighty ploughs. Here is a school called *The Free Grammar-School of Queen Elizabeth*.

Between Ramsey and Whittlesey Meer, there is a ditch, sometimes called *Swerdes Delf*, and sometimes *Knout's Delf*, but now *Steeds Dike*. It parts this county from Cambridge-shire, and is said to have been occasioned by the following accident: As King Canute's family were passing over Whittlesey Meer, in their way from Peterborough to Ramsey, their vessel was cast away in one of the commotions that frequently happen in these meers, and several lives were lost; upon this the King, to prevent the like disasters in time to come, ordered his army to mark out a ditch with their swords and spears, which gave occasion to the name of *Swerdes Delf*, and afterwards employed labourers, to dig, clean, and perfect this undertaking.

*Dornford*, a village upon the river Nen, north-west of Yaxley, was the city of Durobrivæ, mentioned by Antoninus. Here are many remains of a city, and a Roman portway, leading directly to Huntingdon, which, near Stilton, appears with a very high bank, and in an old Saxon charter is called *Ermin-street*. Some think that the city Durobrivæ stood upon both sides of the river Nen, and that the little village Caster, upon the other side of the river, was part of this city, a conjecture which ancient history seems to justify.—A great number of Roman coins have at different times been dug up in this place.





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## K E N T.

**T**HIS county is bounded by Suffex and the English channel on the south, by the river Thames and the German sea on the north, by the same sea on the east, and by Surry on the west. It is divided into five lathes, which are subdivided into fourteen bailiwicks, and these again into sixty-eight hundreds. A lathe is a division peculiar to Kent and Suffex, and consists of two or more bailiwicks, as a bailiwick does of two or more hundreds. Kent contains two cities, and twenty-nine market-towns, one thousand one hundred and eighty villages, and about one million two hundred and forty-eight thousand acres. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and partly in that diocese, and partly in the diocese of Rochester, and has four hundred and eight parishes.

The county is nominally divided into three districts, East Kent, West Kent, and South Kent; or Upper Kent, Middle Kent, and Lower Kent. Upper Kent, or East Kent, which is in the north-east division, is said to be healthy but not wealthy; Lower Kent, or the south parts, called also *The Weald of Kent*, are said to be wealthy, but not healthy; and Middle Kent, bordering upon London and Surry, is said to be both wealthy and healthy. In general, as a great part of this county lies upon the sea, the air is thick, foggy, and warm, though often purified by south and south-west winds, and the shore being generally cleaner than that of Essex, the marshy parts of Kent do not produce so many agues in the same degree as the hundreds of Essex; and the air in the higher parts of Kent is reckoned very healthy. The soil is generally rich, and fit for plough, pasture, or meadow; and that part of the county which borders upon the river Thames abounds with chalk-hills, from whence not only the city of London and parts adjacent, but even Holland and Flanders, are supplied with lime and chalk; and from these hills the rubbish of the chalk is carried in lighters and hoys to the coasts of Essex, Suffolk,

Suffolk, and Norfolk, where it is sold to the farmers as manure for their lands.

This county affords some mines of iron, and in general abounds with plantations of hops, fields of corn, and orchards of cherries, apples, and other fruit; it produces also woad and madder for dyers; and in the cliffs between Dover and Folkestone there is found plenty of samphire; hemp and St. Foin grow here in great abundance; and the south and west parts of Kent, especially that called *The Weald*, are covered with woods of oak, beech, and walnut trees, which afford great quantities of timber for shipping and other uses; here are also many woods of birch, from which the broom-makers in and about London are abundantly supplied. The cattle here of all sorts are reckoned larger than they are in the neighbouring counties; and the Weald of Kent is remarkable for large bullocks; here are several parks of fallow-deer and warrens of grey rabbits; and this county, abounding in rivers, and being almost surrounded by the sea, is well supplied with all manner of fish, and in particular is famous for large oysters.

The chief rivers are the Medway, the Stour, and the Darent.

## C I T I E S.

CANTERBURY is an ancient and famous city, and the metropolitan see of all England. It stands at the distance of fifty-six miles from London. It is situated in a beautiful and fruitful valley, with the river Stour running through it, in two clear and useful streams. It is supposed to have been walled in the time of King Ethelbert, about the year 600; and when the walls were repaired in 1400, they are said to have been nearly two miles in compass. There were twenty-one small towers on the walls, and seven gates, besides posterns. There are now only six, and a great part of the wall is in a ruinous state. The castle is a venerable structure, and was built about the time of the conquest. It is situated on the south side of the city, but is in ruins. Besides the cathedral there are sixteen parish churches in this city; the whole of which is divided into six wards, which are named after the six city gates. Here were also a priory, a nunnery, and three religious houses for the Augustine, black, and grey friars. The knights templars had a mansion in this city. It likewise



contained nine hospitals, three of which are dissolved. Here is a free-school and three charity schools.

The cathedral, called *Christ's Church*, is a fine piece of Gothic architecture; it is situated in a spacious square towards the east side of the city, and is built in the form of a cross; about five hundred feet long, seventy-four broad, exclusive of the cross isle, and eighty feet high. From the middle of the building rises a beautiful tower two hundred and thirty-five feet high, called *Bell Harry*. There are many ancient monuments in this church, some in very good condition; among which are those of Henry the Fourth and his Queen, built A. D. 1413, and Edward the Black Prince. There was also a famous monastery belonging to this cathedral, containing, it is said, one hundred and fifty Benedictines: the cloysters and chapter-house belonging to it, are on the north side of the church, and are of the same age with the body of it. In this chapter-room, in 1171, King Henry the Second, either through piety or policy, suffered the monks to scourge him, by way of penance, on account of the murder of Thomas Becket. This monastery was dissolved in 1539; and there are now belonging to this cathedral a dean, archdeacon, twelve prebendaries, six preachers, six minor canons, twelve lay clerks, ten choristers, two masters, fifty scholars, and twelve alms-men. In the windows of this fabric are some fine remains of painted glass, and underneath it the French and Walloon congregation have a church, which was first given by Queen Elizabeth to the Walloons, who fled hither from the Netherlands, to escape the Duke of Alva's persecution; and this congregation has since been much increased by numbers of Protestants who were driven from France in the reign of Lewis the Fourteenth. These foreign Protestants were extremely serviceable to Canterbury, by introducing here the art of weaving broad silks, which has been brought to great perfection.

The ruins of St. Augustine's monastery, or abbey, are without Burgate, to the east of the city. The abbey was built by Ethelbert, and given to Augustine, and richly endowed by the donations of many Kings and Queens. At the west end of the abbey is Ethelbert's tower, which is thought to have been used as a belfry and steeple, and to have been so called from a large bell named from that King. It was built about the year 1047, and is now much decayed.

Near

Near the ruins of this abbey are those of Pancras chapel, which was an idol temple, and probably built by the Romans, or soon after their time, from the Roman bricks still to be seen. Augustine consecrated it for Christian worship. This abbey and chapel, with its precincts, occupied a large compass of ground, which is surrounded by a high wall, the two grand entrances into which are still remaining.

To the east of this monastery is St. Martin's church, famous for its antiquity, it being built by the believing Romans, and rebuilt and used by Bertha, Ethelbert's Queen, for Christian worship, before Augustine came into England; and was the first place that missionary said mass in, after his arrival. Bertha is said to have been buried in the porch, with her husband Ethelbert. There are rows of Roman brick yet to be seen in it. It had a bishop before the conquest.

This city was formerly governed by the archbishop; the King had a præfect, who possessed but very little authority. It is now governed by a mayor, recorder, a sheriff, twelve aldermen, and twenty-four common-councilmen. A court is held every Monday in the guildhall, for civil and criminal causes, and every other Thursday for the government of the city. Here is a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and a fair for toys on the 29th of September.

ROCHESTER is a very ancient city, at the distance of thirty miles from London. It is situated on an angle of land formed by the current of the river Medway, which coming from the south, runs northward until it has passed by the city; and then, turning, proceeds nearly to the east.

This city has sent members to parliament from the earliest times, and is the see of a bishop, and, next to Canterbury, the most ancient see, in England. It is but a small city, though it is supposed to have been walled round before the conquest; and great part of the walls still remain. It is well supplied with provisions of every kind, and with plenty of fish from the Medway. The buildings are lately much improved, and in several parts of the city are some agreeable residencies for small genteel families. On Boley Hill, which is a retired and pleasant situation, is an ancient seat, which is now the property of Joseph Brooke, Esq; wherein Queen Elizabeth was entertained in 1573. Part of this house has been new built by Mr. Brooke. And near to this, on a delightful eminence,



is the residence of — Gordon, Esq; from many parts of whose house is a pleasant view of the Medway and the surrounding hills. This gentleman is possessed of a collection of fine paintings, many of them by the first masters in that polite art; particularly two capital drawings of Rubens, viz. the crucifixion and the Pentecost.

There are three capital and spacious inns in this city, which will vie with most in England, as well for their good accommodations, as for their antiquity. Nearly on the same spot where the Crown now stands has been an inn distinguished by the same sign upwards of four hundred and fifty years, it having been kept by Simon Potyn, the founder of St. Catharine's hospital, A. D. 1316. It also appears from court rolls, that on the same spots where the Bull and King's Head now stand, there have been houses of public entertainment distinguished by the same signs for above three hundred years.

In the neighbourhood of this city are several very rural and pleasant walks, particularly on the banks of the Medway.

Rocheſter caſtle, which is ſuppoſed to have been erected about ſeven hundred years ago, is placed on a ſmall eminence near the river Medway, juſt above Rocheſter bridge, and conſequently is in the ſouth-weſt angle of the walls of the city. It is nearly of a quadrangular form, having its ſides parallel with the walls of the city. It is about three hundred feet ſquare within the walls, which were ſeven feet in thickneſs, and twenty feet high, above the preſent ground, with embraſures. Three ſides of the caſtle were ſurrounded with a deep broad ditch, which is now nearly filled up: on the other ſide runs the Medway. In the angles and ſides of the caſtle were ſeveral ſquare towers, ſome of which are ſtill remaining, which were raiſed above the walls, and contained lower and upper apartments, with embraſures on their tops.—But what chiefly attracts the notice of a ſpectator, is the noble tower, which ſtands in the ſouth-eaſt angle of this caſtle, and is ſo lofty as to be ſeen diſtinctly at twenty miles diſtance. It is a quadrangular in its form, having its ſides parallel with the walls of the caſtle; and from the top of it is a very pleaſing proſpect of the city and adjacent towns, with their public buildings, the dock yard at Chatham, the meanders of the Medway, and the ſurrounding country.

There is an ancient ſtone bridge at Rocheſter over the river Medway, which was erected in the reign of King Richard the Second. Sir Robert Knolles is celebrated for being the  
founder







founder of this bridge. He was distinguished both for his courage and military preferments, being raised by degrees from the rank of a common soldier to that of a general. He attended Edward the Third in his successful campaigns in France; and when the King's affairs declined by the ill state of health of Edward the Black Prince, Sir Robert was sent over to the continent with an army of thirty thousand men. He advanced into the heart of France, and extended his conquests as far as the gates of Paris. In this, and many other expeditions, he acquired great riches, and returned to his country laden with wealth and honour.—Lambard says, “Sir Robert built this bridge with the spoils of towns, castles, churches, monasteries, and cities, which he burnt and destroyed; so that the ruins of houses, &c. were called *Knolles's Mitres*.”—This bridge, for height and strength, is allowed to be superior to any in England, excepting the bridges at London and Westminster. It is above five hundred and sixty feet long, and fourteen feet broad, with a stone parapet on each side, strongly coped and crowned with an iron balustrade. It has eleven arches, supported by strong and substantial piers, which are well secured on each side with starlings. The river has a considerable fall through these arches.—At the east end, and fronting the passage over the bridge, a chapel was originally erected by Sir John Cobham, who gave some assistance to Sir Robert Knolles in building the bridge; but a neat stone building has since been erected on the place where the chapel stood, wherein the persons to whom the care of the bridge is entrusted hold their meetings.

A bishopric was founded at Rochester, in the reign of Ethelbert King of Kent, soon after Augustine the monk had landed in the isle of Thanet, and preached at Canterbury. The first church at Rochester was finished in the year 604; but this building having suffered considerably by time and the ravages of foreign enemies, bishop Gundulph rebuilt the cathedral about the year 1080. It consists of a body and two isles, one on each side; its extent, from the west door to the steps ascending to the choir, is fifty yards, and from thence to the east windows at the upper end of the altar fifty-two yards more, in all one hundred and two yards, or three hundred and six feet. At the entrance of the choir is a great cross isle, the length of which, from north to south, is one hundred and twenty-two feet. At the upper end of the choir, between the bishop's throne and the high altar, is another cross isle, which extends from



from north to south ninety feet. The west front extends eighty-one feet in breadth; the arch of the great door is doubtless the same which Gundulph built; and is a most curious piece of workmanship, every stone being engraved with some device. It must have been very magnificent in its original state, its remaining beauties being sufficient to excite the attention of the curious. It is supported by several columns on each side, two of which are carved into statues representing Gundulph's royal patrons, King Henry the First and his Queen Matilda. The capitals of these columns, as well as the whole arch, are cut into the figures of various animals and flowers. The key stone of the arch seems to have been designed to represent St. Andrew, the apostle and tutelar saint of the church, sitting in a niche, with an angel on each side, but the head is broke off. Under the figure of St. Andrew are twelve other figures, supposed to be designed for the twelve apostles, some few of which are perfect; but in general the whole arch is much injured by time.—On each side of the west door is a square tower; that on the north side has lately been rebuilt, and has in the centre niche, on the west front, a very ancient figure, supposed to be the statue of bishop Gundulph.

A priory was founded at Rochester about the year 600. A chapter of secular priests was first placed here, but they were afterwards removed, and Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, already spoken of as the builder of the cathedral, established here sixty black monks.

There are some ruins still remaining of the ancient chapter-house, which shew it to have been a building of great elegance, considering the age in which it was erected.

A skeleton was dug up, in December, 1766, by the workmen employed in digging a new cellar for the deanery of Rochester, in an area under the old chapter house, or secretarium of the priory. This skeleton was full seven feet in length, and the skull very entire, with fine teeth quite firm in the jaws.

The town hall of Rochester is an handsome brick structure, supported by coupled columns of stone, in the Doric order. At the upper end of the hall are original portraits of King William the Third and Queen Anne, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Here are also portraits of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, Sir John Leake, and other persons of note, well executed, by eminent masters.—The clock-house, which is a neat building, was erected

erected by Sir Cloudesley Shovel, who represented this city in four parliaments.

Rocheſter is governed by a mayor, eleven aldermen, and twelve common-councilmen.

Sir Joſeph Williamſon, who was one of the plenipotentiaries at the treaties of Nimeguen and of Ryswick, and who was one of the repreſentatives for this city, founded a mathematical ſchool here. There is alſo a grammar-ſchool here, called *The King's School*, conſiſting of twenty ſcholars on the royal foundation, who have their education free, and each nine ſhillings and four-pence per quarter. They wear ſurplices, and, with the chorifters, are always obliged to attend divine ſervice at the cathedral.

A market is kept in this city on Fridays, and two annual fairs are held here, one on the 30th of May, and the other on the 11th of December.

There is in the river Medway, at Rocheſter, and in ſeveral of its creeks and branches within the jurifdiction of the city, an oyster-fiſhery, which is free to every one who has ſerved ſeven years apprenticeship to any fiſherman or dredger, who is free of the ſaid fiſhery; and the mayor and citizens of Rocheſter hold a court once a year, or oftener when occaſion requires it, for the regulation of this fiſhery, and to prevent abuſes in it.

Rocheſter, Stroud, and Chatham, though they are three diſtinct places, yet are ſo contiguous, as to appear in a manner but one city; and theſe three towns form a continued ſtreet extending above two miles in length. Stroud is ſeparated from Rocheſter only by the bridge. There is an hoſpital here for ſick and lame ſoldiers; and an annual fair is held here on the 26th of Auguſt.

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## MARKET TOWNS.

GREENWICH, which is chiefly famous for its fine hoſpital and park, is ſaid to contain upwards of one thouſand three hundred houſes. Its pariſh church, which was rebuilt by the commiſſioners for erecting the fifty new churches, is a very handſome ſtructure, dedicated to St. Alphage, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, who is ſaid to have been ſlain by the Danes in  
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the year 1012. on the spot where the church now stands. There is a college at the end of the town, fronting the Thames, for the maintenance of twenty decayed old housekeepers, twelve out of Greenwich, and eight who are to be alternately chosen from Snottisham and Castle Rising in Norfolk. This is called the Duke of Norfolk's College, though it was founded and endowed in 1613, by Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, the Duke of Norfolk's brother, and by him committed to the care of the Mercer's Company. There is a chapel belonging to this college, in which the Earl's body is laid, which, as well as his monument, was removed hither a few years ago, from the chapel of Dover castle, of which he was constable.—In the year 1560, Mr. John Lambard, author of the Perambulation of Kent, also built and founded an hospital here for twenty poor persons, called Queen Elizabeth's College. This is said to be the first hospital founded by an English Protestant. There are likewise two charity-schools in this parish, one founded by Sir William Boreham, and the other by Mr. John Roan. A market was erected in this town in the year 1737, the direction of which is in the governors of the Royal Hospital, to which the profits arising from it were appropriated. The market days are Wednesdays and Saturdays.

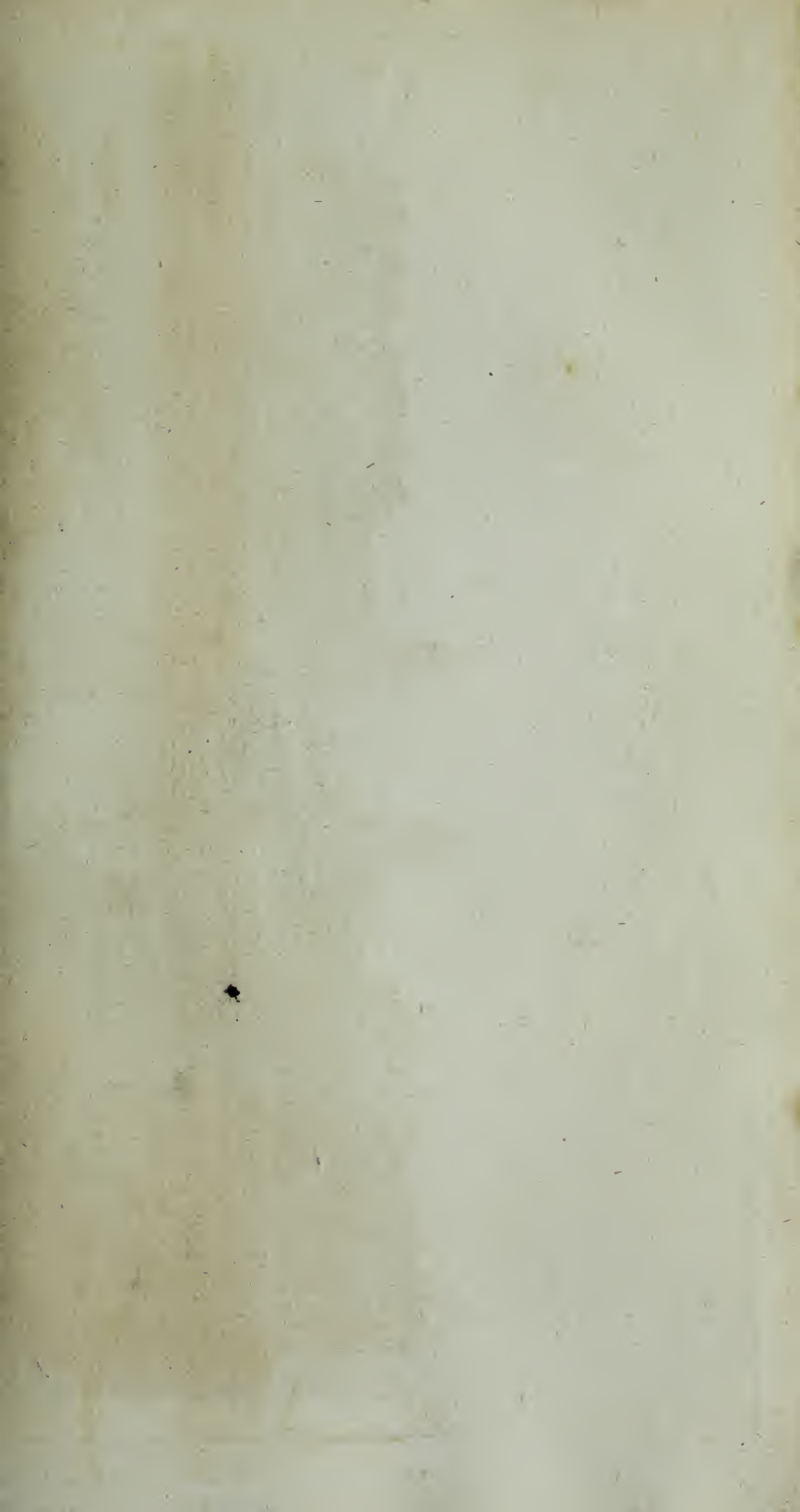
Greenwich has been the residence of several of our Monarchs. Henry the Eighth and the Queens Mary and Elizabeth were born here; and that excellent young Monarch Edward the Sixth died here. The palace was first erected by Humphry Duke of Gloucester, who named it Placentia. King Edward the Fourth bestowed considerable sums of money in enlarging and beautifying it, in which he was followed by King Henry the Seventh; but it was completed by King Henry the Eighth, who often kept his Christmas and other great festivals at this place, with magnificent jousts and tournaments; and the ground, which was called the Tilt-yard, is the spot on which the east wing of the royal hospital is built. But this palace being afterwards suffered to run to ruin was pulled down by King Charles the Second, who began another, a most magnificent edifice, and lived to see the first wing finished; but this was afterwards converted into a part of the royal hospital; and that which is properly the palace here now, is an edifice of no great extent, and is at present converted into apartments for the governor of the hospital and the ranger of the park.

The













The park is well stocked with deer, and affords a noble and delightful view of the hospital, the river Thames, and the city of London. It was enlarged by King Charles the Second, who walled it round, planted it, and caused a royal observatory to be erected on the top of the steep of the hill. This edifice his Majesty erected for the use of the celebrated Mr. John Flamsteed, and it still retains the name of that eminent astronomer. King Charles likewise furnished it with mathematical instruments for astronomical observations, and a deep dry well for observing the stars in the day time. This park is much resorted to in the Easter and Whitsun holidays, by young men and women from London and the neighbourhood, who divert themselves by running down the hills, and other rural sports.

The royal hospital at Greenwich is so magnificent a structure, that it can scarcely be taken for any thing less than the palace of a great Monarch. Indeed the wing which King Charles the Second designed for the palace, is now the first wing of the hospital towards London; for King William the Third being very desirous of promoting the commerce, navigation, and naval strength of this kingdom, by inviting great numbers of his subjects to betake themselves to the sea, gave this noble palace, and several other edifices, with a considerable spot of ground, for the use of those English seamen and their children, who by age, wounds, or other accidents, should be disabled from farther service at sea; and for the widows and children of such as were slain at sea, fighting against the enemies of their country. King William also, by his letters patent, in 1694, appointed commissioners for the better carrying on his public-spirited and laudable design, in which he desired the assistance of his subjects, as the necessity of his affairs did not permit him to advance so considerable a sum towards this work as he desired, and as was requisite for the purpose. In compliance with this request, many benefactions were made to this noble charity, both in that and the succeeding reigns; which, according to the tables hung up at the entrance of the hall, amount to fifty-eight thousand two hundred and nine pounds; and afterwards the estate of the Earl of Derwentwater, which was forfeited by that nobleman's being concerned in the rebellion in 1715, and which amounted to six thousand pounds per annum, was given by parliament to this hospital. The first range had cost King Charles the



Second thirty-six thousand pounds; and another was ordered to be built on the same model. This has been completed with equal magnificence, and the whole structure entirely finished.

The front to the Thames consists of these two ranges of stone buildings, with the governor's house at the back part in the centre, behind which the park, well planted with trees, rises with a noble ascent. These buildings, between which is a large area, perfectly correspond with each other, and each range is terminated by a very noble dome. In each front to the Thames, two ranges of coupled Corinthian columns, finely wrought, support their pediments, and the same order is continued in pilasters along the building. In the centre of each part, between these ranges of Corinthian columns, is the door, which is of the Doric order. The buildings, which are continued from those of which we have just been speaking, and which face the area, correspond with them, though in a more fine and elegant manner. In the centre of both is a range of columns supporting a pediment, and at each corner a range of Corinthian pilasters. The front is rusticated, and there are two series of windows. The domes at the end, which are one hundred and twenty feet high, are supported on coupled columns, as are the porticoes below; and under one of these is the chapel, which is adorned on the inside with the utmost elegance and beauty. On the sides of the gate are placed a large celestial and terrestrial globe; and in the centre of the area is fixed on a pedestal a statue of our late excellent Monarch, King George the Second.

The hall of this hospital, which is very noble, is finely painted by Sir James Thornhill. At the upper end of it are represented, in an alcove, the late Princess Sophia, King George the First, King George the Second, Queen Caroline, the Queen Dowager of Prussia, Frederick Prince of Wales, the late Duke of Cumberland, and the five Princesses, the daughters of his late Majesty. On the cieling over the alcove are Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark; and on the cieling of the hall are King William and Queen Mary, with several fine emblematical figures. All strangers who see this hall pay two-pence each, and this income is applied to the support of the mathematical school for the sons of sailors.

In







In the year 1705 an hundred disabled seamen were the first that were received into this hospital; but it at present contains near two thousand old or disabled seamen, and an hundred boys, the sons of seamen, who are instructed in navigation, and bred up for the service of the royal navy; but there are no out-pensioners, as at Chelsea. Each of the mariners has a weekly allowance of seven loaves, weighing sixteen ounces each, three pounds of beef, two of mutton, a pint of pease, a pound and a quarter of cheese, two ounces of butter, fourteen quarts of beer, and one shilling a week tobacco money. The tobacco money of the boatswains is two shillings and sixpence a week each; that of their mates one shilling and sixpence; and that of the other officers in proportion to their rank: besides which, each common pensioner is completely clothed once in two years.

For the better support of this hospital, every seaman in the royal navy, and in the service of the merchants, pays sixpence a month. This is stopped out of the pay of all sailors, and delivered in at the Sixpenny Receiver's Office on Tower-hill; and therefore a seaman who can produce an authentic certificate of his being disabled, and rendered unfit for the sea-service, by defending any ship belonging to British subjects; or in taking any ship from the enemy, may be admitted into this hospital, and receive the same benefit from it, as if he had been in the immediate service of the government. This hospital has about an hundred governors, composed of the nobility, great officers of state, and persons in considerable posts under the King.

WOOLWICH is nine miles from London, and three from Greenwich, situated on the banks of the river Thames, and wholly taken up by, and in a manner raised from, the yards and docks erected there for the naval service. In the reign of Edward the First, Woolwich was in possession of Gilbert de Marisco; and he held it, as half a Knight's fee, of Warren de Monchenie, Baron of Swanscombe: but Queen Elizabeth, when the business of the navy increased, built here larger ships than were usually employed before; new docks and launches were erected, and places prepared for building and repairing ships of the largest size, because there was a greater depth of water and a freer channel than at Deptford. This is reckoned



the mother-dock of the royal-navy, and is said to have furnished as many ships of war as any two docks in England.

All the buildings and yards belonging to the dock, are encompassed with an high wall, and are very spacious and convenient, and so prodigiously full of all sorts of stores, of timber, plank, masts, pitch, tar, and other naval provisions, as can hardly be conceived. Besides the building yard, here is a large rope-walk, where the biggest cables are made for men of war; and on the east, or lower part of the town, is the gun-yard, commonly called *The Warren*, or *The Gun Park*; where there is a vast quantity of cannon of all sorts for the ships of war, every ship's guns a-part, heavy cannon for batteries, and mortars of all sorts and sizes; insomuch that there have been laid up at one time between seven and eight thousand pieces of ordnance, besides mortars and shells, almost beyond number. Here is also the house where the firemen and engineers prepare their fire-works, and charge bombs, carcases and grenadoes, for the public service.

The town has been of late years much enlarged and beautified, several fine docks, rope yards, and capacious magazines added, and the royal foundery for cannon repaired and improved. The regiment of the royal train of artillery commonly lies here; and here is an academy for instructing them in the art of gunnery. The Thames is here near a mile over at high water, and the water salt upon the flood; and as the channel lies strait east and west for about three miles, the tide runs very strong, and the river is entirely free from shoals and sands, and has seven or eight fathom water; so that the largest ships may ride here with safety, even at low water,

The parish church of Woolwich is one of the fifty new churches, and is a very handsome edifice. A weekly market is kept in this town on Fridays.

There is a fortification near Woolwich, on the river Ravensbourn, the area of which is inclosed with treble ramparts and ditches, very high and deep, near two miles in compass, which is supposed to be a work of the Romans.

DARTFORD is an handsome large town, sixteen miles from London; but it is more properly called *Darentford*, from its being situated on the river Darent, which runs through it, and at a small distance falls into the Thames. On this river the first paper mill in England was erected by Sir John Spilman, who







who obtained a patent, and two hundred pounds a year from King Charles the First, to enable him to carry on that manufacture: and on this river was also the first mill for flitting iron bars for making wire. The town is full of inns and other public houses, on account of its being a great thoroughfare to Canterbury and Dover. Here is a harbour for barges, and the town is finely watered by two or three good springs. King Edward the Third had a general tournament performed here by his nobles, and also here founded a convent, whose abbess and nuns were, for the most part, of the noblest families in this kingdom; and this convent King Henry the Eighth turned into a palace. King Henry the Sixth founded an alms-house here for five poor decrepid men. There is a market here on Saturdays, which is generally well stored with corn and other provisions, and much frequented by corn-chandlers and meal-men. Here is also an annual fair on the 2d of August for horses and bullocks. There is a large gunpowder mill here; and it is very remarkable, that though it has been blown up four times between the years 1730 and 1738, yet no one ever received any personal damage by these misfortunes. This town gives the title of Viscount to the Earl of Jersey.

GRAVESEND is twenty-two miles from London, and is a flourishing and populous place, well paved and lighted. It has changed its situation since the great increase of trade in this nation, and approached nearer the river, as the chief support of its inhabitants. It was incorporated, together with Milton, which is at a small distance from hence, in the tenth year of Queen Elizabeth's reign, by the name of the portreeve (which has been changed to that of mayor), jurats, and inhabitants of the towns of Gravesend and Milton.

Gravesend is situated on the river Thames, opposite to Tilbury Fort, and is a vast thoroughfare between London and Dover. Here is seated one of the blockhouses for securing the passage of the Thames up to London; and this being the usual landing place for all strangers and seamen, occasions a great resort of all degrees of people; for whose accommodation there are held here two large weekly markets, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, well stored with all sorts of provisions. Here all outward-bound ships must stop, and come to an anchor, when a searcher of the customs comes on board, and  
looks



looks after the several cockets, which contain the entries of the several parts of the cargo, if of divers sorts; and this is called *clearing*.

In the reign of King Richard the Second this town was burnt and plundered by the French; who, to make reprisals upon the English, for the ravage and plunder made in France by the English army, under the Lord Nevil, came up the Thames with their ships, and burnt and plundered this and several other towns, and carried away many of the inhabitants. But to enable the town of Gravesend to recover this loss, the abbot of St. Mary Le Grace on Tower Hill, to whom King Richard had granted a manor belonging to Gravesend, obtained that the inhabitants of Gravesend and Milton should have the sole privilege of carrying passengers by water from hence to London, at two-pence a head, or four shillings the whole fare; but the fare is now raised to nine-pence a head in the tilt-boat, and one shilling in the wherry. The former must not take in above forty passengers, and the latter no more than ten. The Watermen's Company are by act of parliament obliged to provide officers at Billingsgate and at Gravesend, who at every time of highwater, by night and day, are at their respective places to ring publickly a bell set up for that purpose, for fifteen minutes, to give notice to the tilt-boats and wherries to put off; and coaches ply at Gravesend at the landing of people from London, to carry them to Rochester.

Gravesend being burnt down in the year 1727, the parliament, in 1731, granted five thousand pounds for rebuilding its church, which stood near the high road, but is now nearer the river, and is a new and elegant building. Here is a very handsome charitable foundation, Mr. Henry Pinnock having in 1624, given twenty-one dwelling-houses, and a house for a master-weaver to employ the poor; and a good estate is also settled for the repairs.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the lord-mayor, aldermen, and companies of the city of London, were ordered by her Majesty to receive all eminent strangers and foreign ambassadors at Gravesend, in their formalities, and so to attend them up to London in their barges, if they came up by water. If they came by land, they met them at Shooter's hill, or on Blackheath, on horseback.

Within a few years past, great improvements have been made in the lands near this town, by turning them into  
kitchen

kitchen gardens, with the produce of which Gravesend not only supplies the neighbouring places for several miles round, but also sends great quantities to the London markets.

There are two annual fairs held here, one on the 23d of April, and the other on the 24th of October, for horses, cloaths, toys, and other goods.

BROMLEY is a small town, situated on the river Ravensbourn, at the distance of ten miles from London. The bishop of Rochester has a palace here. King Edgar is said to have given this manor to the bishops of that see in the year 955. Here is also an hospital, erected by Dr. Warner, bishop of Rochester, in the reign of King Charles the Second, for twenty poor clergy-men's widows, with an allowance of twenty pounds a year each, and fifty pounds a year to the chaplain. This was the first endowment of the sort ever established in England. The Reverend Mr. Hetherington, a few years ago, presented two thousand pounds to this college.

There is a mineral spring here, the water of which has been found, by a chemical analysis, to contain the same qualities as the Tunbridge water, in a greater degree. A market is kept here every Thursday, and two annual fairs, one on the 3d of February, and the other on the 5th of August, for horses, bullocks, sheep, and hogs.

MILTON is an ancient town, about twelve miles from Rochester, and forty-two from London. It is in a manner situated on the water of a fine rivulet, at the head of a creek that runs into the Swale, which separates the isle of Shepey from the main. Antiquity has dignified it, by calling it *The Royal Town of Middleton*. When King Alfred divided his kingdom into hundreds and shires, Milton was in his possession, and therefore was so denominated: it was honoured with a royal palace, which was situated near where the church at present stands, about a mile north-east of the town. It was a flourishing place until the reign of Edward the Confessor; nor do we read of its being injured by the Danes, although it must have been visited by them. In the same reign, in the year 1053, Earl Godwin, who had been banished, came hither and burnt the palace and town to ashes.

Milton church is a large and handsome building. There was a church in this place very early; for Sexburga, the foundress



foundress of the nunnery at Minster in Shepey, is said to have expired in the church porch of Milton, about the year 680. It contains several ancient monuments of the Norwood family.

The town is governed by a portreeve, who is annually chosen on St. James's-day. There is a good oyster fishery in the Swale, belonging to this town: the oysters are much esteemed in London. A market was granted by King Edward the First, in the year 1287, and continues on Saturdays. A fair is held here on the 24th of May.

Within a mile to the east of the church is a large open field or marsh, called *Kelmsley Down*, derived, it is imagined, from *Campsley Down*, or *The Place of Camps*, because there the Danes, under Hastings, in 892, encamped on their arrival from France, with eighty ships.

On the east side of the down are the remains of a castle, said to have been built at that time by those free-booters. It is now called *Castle Ruff*. All that appears of this fortress at present is a square piece of ground surrounded by a large moat.

On the opposite side of Milton creek, and about half a mile north of Sittingborn, are the poor remains of *Bayford Castle*, said to have been raised by the good and vigilant King Alfred, to secure the country from the excursions of the Danes, while they rendezvoused on Kelmsley Downs. The moat and a small part of the east wall are still visible.

FEVERSHAM is forty-eight miles from London, and is a town of great antiquity. In a charter of Kenulph, King of Mercia, dated 802, it is called *The King's Little Town*, and seems to have been a royal residence at that time. King Stephen founded an abbey here in 1148, but there are no remains of it, except an inner gate and some walls. The church is large and handsome. Feversham is now in a flourishing state, being the chief port for this part of the country: it is situated on a rivulet which falls into the mouth of the Swale, and has an oyster fishery. The diedgers have a peculiar law among them, which obliges a person to marry before he can be free of the grounds. The town is an appendage of the town and port of Dover. It is governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty; has a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and two fairs, one on the 25th of February, and the other on the 12th of August.

A large

A large powder manufactory subsisted near this town as early as the time of Queen Elizabeth; and some years ago it was purchased by government.

To the north-west of the town, on the other side of the rivulet, is the chapel of Davington, where was a considerable nunnery. It was founded soon after the abbey of Feversham, in the reign of King Stephen, in the year 1153. The chapel of this ancient religious house is now the parish church.

To the south of the town, near the road, is the small, but neat church of Preston, in which are some monuments three hundred years old.

SANDWICH is one of the Cinque Ports, and is at the distance of eight miles from Margate, and sixty-seven from London. The walls of the town, which were made by throwing up the earth, are nearly in the form of a parallelogram, and are five furlongs in length from east to west, and two and a half from north to south; at the foot of which is a wet ditch of considerable breadth. They command a pleasant and extensive view of the adjacent country. In these walls are several semicircular projections which overlook the ditches, there were also some pieces of ordnance, which being quite unserviceable, have been removed. The river and quays are on the north side of the town. There are several gates belonging to it, some of which are in a ruinous condition.

It appears from the remains of fortifications about this town, that it was anciently a place of great strength; and, before the use of cannon, was capable of enduring a vigorous siege. Sandwich has been esteemed the most famous of all the ports in England; and is thought, by many respectable authors, to have been the landing place generally used by the Romans, and inhabitants of the ancient city Rhotupia.

In Sandwich are three parish churches, St. Clement's, St. Mary's, and St. Peter's. There was formerly a fourth in the south-west part of this town, dedicated to St. James, but there are no remains of it at present. The church-yard is still inclosed, and is used for the interment of strangers. St. Clement's church is in the east part of the town, and situated upon higher ground than the rest. It is a large and ancient structure, and much resembles the Norman style of architecture; particularly the tower, which is considerably older than the rest of the building.



There is a good bridge here, which was erected in 1757. It is built with stone, having an arch on each side, and a passage between for the larger vessels, that use this port. The middle arch is of wood, divided into two parts, which are easily drawn up or let down. The passage over the stone part of the bridge is secured by a parapet wall on each side, and the wooden arch by Chinese rails. It is a work of considerable utility, not only to the inhabitants of Sandwich and the isle of Thanet, but to all the eastern part of this county, and to the public in general.

The streets of Sandwich are narrow and irregular; but there is a handsome square called *The Fish-Market*, which consists principally of shops. Here is also another square called *The Corn-Market*; and near the west side of this is the town-hall, which is a very ancient structure.

Sandwich claims jurisdiction over Deal, Ramsgate, Fordwich, Sarre, and Brightlingsea, in Essex, which are members of this Cinque Port. It used to furnish five ships compleat for service.

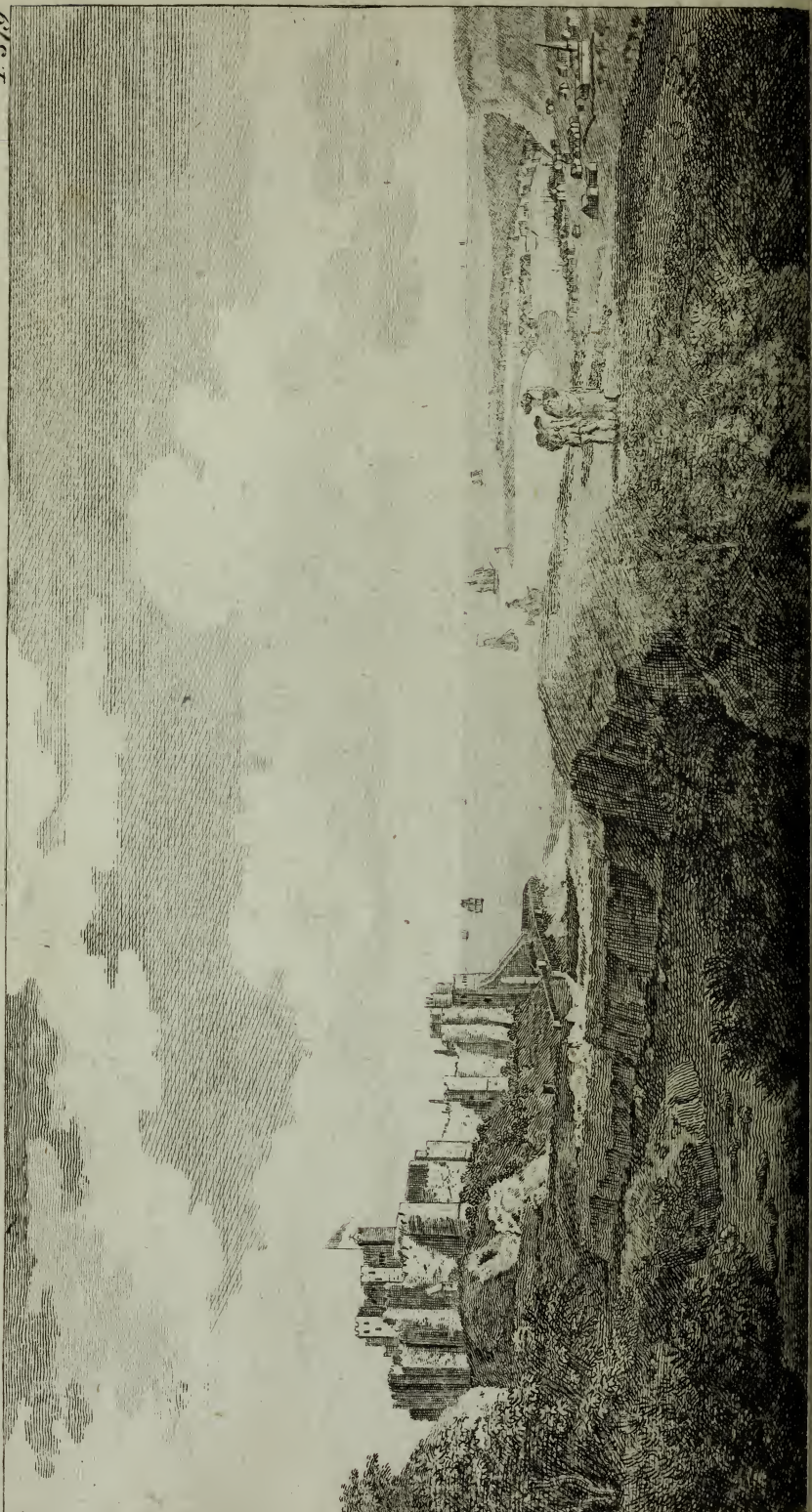
This town was anciently incorporated by the name of the barons of the town and port of Sandwich; but at present is incorporated by the name of the mayor, jurats, and commonalty. It sends two members to parliament, who still retain the ancient name of barons of the Cinque Port of Sandwich. The freemen of the Cinque Ports have the privilege of sending a certain number of their own members to support the royal canopy at a coronation. Besides the mayor, there are twelve jurats and twenty-four common-council-men, a town-clerk, two treasurers, and other inferior officers.

The trade of this town chiefly consists in coals, fir, timber, deals, &c. with which the country is supplied. Here are also shipped corn, malt, fruit, and seeds, for London and other markets. The seeds raised from this soil are in much repute.

Sandwich is for the most part supplied with water from a narrow stream called the Delph, which runs through it. Here is a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and a fair on the 4th of December, which continues two days. The shrimps which are caught near this town are remarkably excellent. There are several good inns in Sandwich, and many wealthy inhabitants. Here is also a large and elegant assembly-room, which is a very modern structure. Since the construction of the bridge, and the resort to Margate as a bathing-place, the town has been more frequently visited by strangers; a tour  
from







from thence to Sandwich, Deal, Dover, &c. being a pleasant and agreeable excursion.

DEAL is about five miles south-west of Sandwich, and seventy-two from London. It is divided into Upper and Lower Deal; the former is the most ancient, the latter having had its existence from the increase of trade. The trade of the inhabitants chiefly consists in supplying the ships which rendezvous in the Downs. This town is a member of the port of Sandwich, and is governed by a mayor and jurats, subordinate to that town. Here is a market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and two fairs annually, one on the 5th of April, the other on the 10th of October.

DOVER is at the distance of seventy-one miles from London, and is situated on the sea shore, in the narrowest part of the channel that divides England and France; the cliffs of Calais, on the French coast, being only thirty miles distant. It is a very agreeable sea-port, the situation being very romantic, at the foot of several bold hills; and the harbour in the centre of the town, quite built round, is surrounded by quays, which are very pleasing to the view. From the castle, and the hills near the town on the road to Hythe, are noble views down to the town, the harbour, and the shipping; and over channel, the high lands in France are distinctly seen.

Dover is a place of great antiquity, and was undoubtedly one of the Roman ports in this country. It was a town of great repute in the time of Edward the Confessor, when it was the principal of the Cinque Ports. It was formerly walled in, having ten or eleven gates; and the walls are said to have been built by the Emperor Severus; but there are now but small remains either of the walls or gates. There were also formerly seven churches in Dover, but there are now only two.

Dover castle is built on the extremity of the stupendous cliffs which form the eastern barrier to Dover town and harbour, and is so large as to contain thirty-five acres of ground. There has been a fortification on this spot ever since the Romans possessed this island, and it was of great repute among the Saxon Kings. It was thought a very important object by William the Norman; and through a course of ages succeeding Kings built new towers, and increased its natural strength



to such a degree, that in King Henry the Third's time it was called the key and barrier of the whole realm.—This castle contains a curious specimen of ancient fortification, and is well worthy of attention. St. Martin's church is said to have been situated here, for the service of the royal palace, which was in the castle. Here is a tower at the west end, which, with the church, bears evident marks of antiquity. The bells which were in it were removed to Portsmouth by Sir George Rook. There is a well in this castle three hundred and sixty feet deep, lined to the bottom with free-stone. In the castle they shew two very old keys, and a brass trumpet, said to have been used in the time of Julius Cæsar. Here is a brass gun, supposed to be the longest in the world: it was presented to Queen Elizabeth by the States of Utrecht: it carries a ball of fifteen pounds weight, is twenty-two feet long, and is said to throw a ball seven miles. It is commonly called *Queen Elizabeth's Pocket Pistol*.

Dover is incorporated by the name of the mayor, jurats, and commonalty of the town and port of Dover, and sends two members to parliament: it has received many favours from different Princes, one of which was the privilege of a licensed packet-boat to France; on account of the narrowness of the channel, it is become the general place of embarkation for that kingdom and arrival from thence. In the reign of King Richard the Second the fare from France for a single passenger, in summer time, was settled at sixpence, and a shilling in winter. A market is kept here on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and a fair on the 22d of November.

As Dover is one of the Cinque Ports, it may not be improper here to observe, that this phrase is derived from *quinque portus*, i. e. *five havens*, that lie over against France, and were thus called by way of eminence, on account of their superior importance. Our Kings have thought them worthy a particular regard; and the better to secure them against invasions, have granted them a peculiar form of government. They are governed by a keeper, who has the title of Lord-Warden of the Cinque Ports. They had a particular jurisdiction granted them by King John, and several other privileges which have been confirmed by most of his successors. Their Warden, who was first appointed by William the Conqueror, has the authority of an Admiral among them, and issues out writs in his own name. The five original Cinque Ports are Dover, Rumney,

Rumney, and Sandwich, in Kent; and Winchelsea and Rye, market-towns of Suffex; and to these five original ports there were afterwards added Hastings and Seaford, two other market towns in Suffex, and Hythe in Kent. When the service which was required of the Cinque Ports towards their preservation became too burdensome, each was allowed a certain number of other towns in its neighbourhood, as auxiliaries, that they might bear a part in this public charge. The Cinque Ports claim the honour of supporting the canopy, which at a coronation is borne over the Sovereign, and afterwards to dine at the uppermost table on the King's right hand: the canopy, staves, &c. are their fee. Thirty-two barons or inhabitants of the ports used to be summoned for this purpose, whose expences were borne by the ports; but at present they usually depute their members of parliament to that office.

FOLKSTONE is situated between Dover and Hythe, and is a member of the Cinque Port of Dover. It is seventy-one miles from London, and appears to have been a very ancient place, from the Roman coins and other antiquities which have been found in it. Here was formerly a nunnery; but being so near the coast, it was often pillaged by the Danes, and at last swallowed up by the sea. However, after the conquest, a priory was founded here. Here is a charity school for twenty boys, nominated by the mayor and jurats, who, with the commonalty, constitute the corporation. A copious spring runs through the town. Folkstone is chiefly noted for the multitude of fishing boats that belong to its harbour, which are employed at the proper season in catching mackarel for London; and about Michaelmas the Folkstone barks, with others from the Essex shore, sail away to the coasts of Suffolk and Norfolk to catch herrings.

HYTHE is situated in the south-east part of the county of Kent, and is sixty-nine miles from London. It is a Cinque Port and corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. This town had anciently five parish churches, though now it has only one. Here are two hospitals, and a charity-school for thirty-eight boys.—A remarkable pile of dry bones has been preserved in this town, and kept in a vault under the church, consisting of several thousand heads, arms, legs,



legs, thigh-bones, &c. some of which are very gigantic, and appear by an inscription to be the remains of the Danes and Britons killed in a battle near this place before the Norman conquest.

RUMNEY is often called *New Rumney*, to distinguish it from an inconsiderable town within a mile and a half of it, called *Old Rumney*. New Rumney is seventy miles from London, and is one of the Cinque Ports, and a corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. The town stands on a high gravelly hill, in the middle of Rumney marsh.—Old Rumney was once a large town, containing twelve wards and five churches. It had a close and commodious haven, and the ships came so close to the town that ships used to anchor in one of the church yards; but the sea deserted it in the reign of King Edward the First. It has now but one church. It is said that by a storm which happened here in 1334, above three hundred windmills and houses were carried away; which, together with the withdrawing of the sea, so impoverished the place, that it could never recover it.

TENTERDEN is an ancient town in Kent, at the distance of fifty-eight miles from London. It is governed by a mayor and jurats. The beacon of the church here is remarkably lofty, and is proverbially said to have been the cause of some dangerous sands in the channel, called *Godwin Sands*. These sands were a tract of ground near the Isle of Thanet, belonging to Godwin, Earl of Kent, which lying low, were defended from the sea by a great wall that required a constant care to uphold it. This tract was afterwards given to St. Austin's monastery, near Canterbury; and the abbot neglecting the wall while he was taken up in building Tenderden steeple, the sea broke in and overflowed the ground, leaving the sands upon it. At the time of the alarm of the Spanish invasion, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a beacon was placed upon Tenderden steeple.

CRANBROOK is sixty miles from London. It is situated in a woody part of the county of Kent, and is the place where the first woollen manufacture in the kingdom was erected, by those Flemings who were encouraged to settle here by King Edward the Third, in order to teach the art to his subjects;  
and

and excellent cloth used to be made here formerly; but that trade has long since decayed, and this is now only an inconsiderable place.

TUNBRIDGE is a market town, at the distance of thirty miles from London, situated upon the river Medway, which here branches out into many little streams, over all which there are bridges. This town derives its name from these bridges, it being compounded of *Ton*, the Saxon word for Town, and *Bridge*. It consists of one broad street, adorned with some very good modern houses. Here is a good free-school, which was erected and endowed about two hundred years ago, by Sir Andrew Judd, Lord Mayor of London, who vested the care of it in the Skinners Company. It is kept in excellent repair, and is at present in a very flourishing condition. There is nothing remarkable in the church, which is a neat modern building. Here is a market on Fridays, and fairs held on Ash-Wednesday, the 5th of July, and the 29th of October.

At the further end of the town, on the right hand, as you come from London, the noble ruins of an old castle strike you with awe and veneration. It was built by Richard de Clare, on a piece of ground which was given him by Langfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, in exchange for as much land in Normandy, the measurement being on both sides made with thongs of raw hides. It stands upon an eminence close upon the banks of the Medway, and has been very strong, and was anciently a place of considerable importance. Edward the First was nobly feasted here in the second year of his reign, by Gilbert de Clare Earl of Gloucester and Hertford. In the reign of Edward the Fourth this castle was in the possession of Henry Duke of Buckingham; but in the reign of Henry the Eighth both the town and castle were forfeited to the crown by the attainder of Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham; and the latter has not been in the least repaired since that time. Queen Elizabeth gave it to her kinsman Henry Lord Hunsdon, from whose heirs it passed into private hands.

MAIDSTONE is situated on the river Medway, and is thirty-six miles from London. In the time of the Britons it was their third chief city; it was also a station of the Romans, and has been a considerable town in all ages since. It is a large



large, pleasant, and populous place, and is a corporation, governed by a mayor and commonalty. The chief trade of Maidstone is in thread, which is made here in great perfection, and in hops, of which there are vast quantities, besides fine orchards of cherries. From this town and the adjacent country London is said to be supplied with more necessaries of life than from any other market-town in England, particularly with large bullocks, timber, wheat, hops, and apples. The county courts are held in this town, and generally the assizes. Here is a fine stone bridge over the Medway, erected by one of the archbishops of Canterbury. At this place the river Len falls into the Medway, and the tide flows quite up to the town, and carries barges of sixty tons.—The weekly market on Thursdays is reckoned the best frequented of any in the county, and is toll free for hops. There are four annual fairs here, viz. on the 13th of February, the 12th of May, the 20th of June, and the 17th of October.

WEST MALLING is a market-town of great antiquity, thity miles from London, and where there was formerly a nunnery of the Benedictine order; but it is now an inconsiderable place.

SEVENOKE which is twenty-four miles from London, in the road to Tunbridge, is said to have derived its name from seven very large and high oaks which stood near it, when it was first built, but which have long since been cut down. Here is an hospital for maintaining poor old people, and a school for educating poor children, which was built and endowed by Sir William Sevenoke, who was Lord-Mayor of London in 1418, and who is said to have been a foundling, brought up by some person of this town, from whence he took his name. John Potkyn, who lived in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, was a great benefactor to the school; and the revenue being augmented by Queen Elizabeth, it was from thence called *Queen Elizabeth's Free School*. It was rebuilt in 1727.

ASHFORD, or ESHFORD, takes its name from a neighbouring ford over a small river called *The Esh*, near the head of the Stour. It is fifty-seven miles from London, is governed by a mayor, and has a court of record every three weeks for all actions of debts or damages not exceeding twenty marks. Here  
is

is a large church, which was formerly collegiate, and a free grammar-school. It has a market and two fairs.

CRAYFORD is a small town near Dartford, which obtained its name from having anciently a ford over the river Cray, or Crouch, a little above its influx into the Thames. This place is famous for a battle fought near it between the Britons and Saxons, commanded by Hengist, A. D. 457, in which the Britons were overthrown. In the adjacent heath and fields are several caves, supposed to have been formed by the Saxons as places of security and shelter for their wives, children, and effects, during their wars with the Britons.

There are also several places in Kent, which take their names from the small river Cray, on the banks of which they are situated. This stream rises a little to the south-west of St. Mary Cray, runs by that town, and passing by Paul's Cray, Foot's Cray, and North Cray, runs into the Darent, near its conflux with the Thames at Dartford Creek, opposite to Purfleet. The principal of these places is ST. MARY CRAY, about which are many woods of birch, from which the broom-makers in Kent-street, Southwark, are supplied.

ELHAM is situated upon the smaller Stour, at the distance of sixty-two miles from London. It has a market and four fairs, but is an obscure and inconsiderable place.

GOUDHURST is forty-three miles from London, and is situated in the road through Tunbridge to Cranbrook. It is remarkable for nothing besides its church, which was so impaired by a storm of thunder and lightning, on the 23d of April, 1637, that it became necessary to take down the steeple, which was lofty, and of stone. It has since been rebuilt; but the small wooden steeple, which was hastily set on the top of the stone work, with one bell in it, still continues.

LENHAM takes its name from its situation at the source of a small river called *The Len*. It is forty-seven miles distant from London. It has a market and two fairs. In the church-yard here there is a remarkable inscription on the tomb-stone of Robert Thompson, Esq; which mentions that he was grand-child to Mary Honeywood, wife of Robert Honeywood,



of Charing, near this town, who at her decease had 367 children lawfully descended from her, viz.

Of her own body,	-	16
Grand-children	-	114
In the third generation	-	228
In the fourth ditto	-	9
		<hr/>
		367

LYDD was so called by the Saxons, from the Latin word *littus*, the *shore*, alluding to its situation upon the sea-shore. It is distant seventy-five miles from London, and is a member of the Cinque Port of Romney. It is a populous town, incorporated by the name of a bailiff, jurats, and commonalty, and has a charity-school.

QUINBOROUGH, or QUEENBOROUGH, took its name from its having been built by King Edward the Third, in honour of his Queen. It is forty-six miles from London, and stands on the west side of the Isle of Shepey, and on the banks of the river Medway. It is a corporation, governed by a mayor, aldermen, and other officers. The inhabitants are chiefly supported by fishing.

WESTRAM is twenty-three miles distant from London. It is a small inconsiderable place. In the parish-church of this town, General Wolfe, who was born here, lies buried; and on the monument erected to his memory is the following inscription:

“ J A M E S,  
 “ Son of Colonel EDWARD WOLFE, and  
 “ HENRIETTA his Wife,  
 “ Was born in this Parish, January 2, 1727;  
 “ And died in America, Sept. 13, 1759,  
 “ Conqueror of Quebec.

“ While GEORGE in Sorrow bow'd his laurell'd Head,  
 “ And bids the Artift grace the Soldier dead,  
 “ We raise no sculptur'd Trophy to thy Name,  
 “ Brave Youth! the fairest in the Lists of Fame:  
 “ Proud of thy Birth, we boast th' auspicious Year;  
 “ Struck with thy Fall, we shed the general Tear;  
 “ With humble Grief inscribe one artless Stone,  
 “ And from thy matchless Honours date our own.”

WROTHAM,

WROTHAM, or WORTHAM, is twenty-four miles from London and three miles and an half from West Malling. It received its name from the great quantity of the herb-wort which grows near it. It has a very large church, in which are sixteen stalls, supposed to have been made for the clergy who attended the archbishops of Canterbury, to whom the manor formerly belonged, and who had a palace here, till Simon Islip, the archbishop, in the fourteenth century, pulled it down, and built another at Maidstone: the rectory is, however, still reckoned one of the best livings in Kent. It has a market on Tuesdays, and one annual fair. Several pieces of antiquity have been dug up here, particularly some military weapons. It is mentioned in Doomsday-Book.

WYE is, distant fifty-seven miles from London, and stands upon the river Stour, over which it has a bridge. Here is a church, which was formerly collegiate, and has been rebuilt since the year 1706, the old one having been almost reduced to ruins by the fall of the tower. Here is also a charity-school, founded by Lady Joanna Thornhill. This town has a harbour for barges.

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## ISLE OF THANET.

This is in the north-east part of the county, and lies open to the sea on the north and east, with the river Wantsum on the west and south. It is about nine miles long and eight broad, and in general very fertile.

East Kent and the isle of Thanet, have long been reckoned the best cultivated part of England, and this tract of country has no slight pretensions to that character. The drill husbandry is very general here, and is carried on in a very complete and judicious manner. The culture of hops throughout East Kent is a very important branch of husbandry; and madder is here cultivated by farmers more than in any other part of the kingdom.

MARGATE stands on the north side of the isle of Thanet, within a small bay, in a breach of the cliff, where is a gate to the sea, from whence it has its name. It is seventy-two miles from London, and about sixteen from Canterbury. In sum-



mer it is a pleasant and agreeable situation. Its principal street runs north and south near a mile in length, and terminates at the pier, with a gentle descent, by which means the streets are always neat and clean. But what has given Margate such eclat in the *beau monde* is its convenience for bathing: the shore being level and of fine sand, is extremely well adapted to this purpose. On the wharf are several bathing rooms, where the company resort to drink the water, and from whence they enter into the machines, which are afterwards drove out two or three hundred yards into the sea, under the conduct of careful guides. There is a door in the machine, which being opened, they descend into the water, by means of a ladder; an umbrella of canvas is let down, which conceals them from public view.

Since Margate has been so much frequented by the nobility and gentry, many considerable additions and improvements have been made to it. A large new square has been erected, consisting of very convenient houses for the accommodation of the nobility and gentry who resort to this place: the square is paved after the same manner as the streets in London; and in it is a noble and commodious assembly-room, finished with great elegance and taste; and being eighty-seven feet in length, and forty-three in breadth, is supposed to be the largest in England, and commands a delightful prospect of the sea.—Adjoining to this are very convenient apartments for cards and tea. On the lower floor is a billiard table, and a large room for public entertainments, with a piazza which extends the whole length of the building. In the upper floor are ranges of bedchambers. The number of subscribers to these rooms have amounted to near a thousand in a season. The amusements are conducted with great regularity. In the square is an elegant tavern, which communicates with the room for public entertainment. Besides the tavern in this square, there is another, called *The New Inn*, situated on the parade, where are two hot salt water baths, which are said to have a very salutary effect. There is also a playhouse here. Provisions are very plentiful, and great quantities of fish are daily caught. In short, here is every requisite to render this place a genteel and delightful summer residence.

Two machines set out for Canterbury every morning, to meet the coaches from London, and return to Margate the same evening. The hoys sail from the Wool Quay, near the Custom

Custom House, London, on Wednesday or Thursday, and with a west-north-west wind, sail to Margate in twelve hours; but when it is unfavourable, may be three days on their passage. They go from Margate on Fridays or Saturdays. The fare is half a crown. They bring great quantities of goods from London for this place and its neighbourhood. As a proof of the safety of this passage, there has not been a hoy lost for upwards of one hundred and forty years.

Margate is under the same jurisdiction as the port of Dover, the mayor being represented here by a deputy. Its church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, which was the ancient name of the parish. It was formerly a chapel to Minster church, and supposed to have been built about the year 1050, and made parochial since the year 1290. It contains several ancient monuments.

About six miles from Margate, to the right of the road is the small town of MONKTON or MONKTOWN, so called from its being the property of the monks, who usually resided in this place. There are collegiate stalls in the church, and the heads of several priors in the remains of painted glass in the windows. The church has been larger than it now is.

On the right hand of Birchington, about four miles from Margate, is the ancient but small town of MINSTER. Domneva, daughter of Ercombert, King of Kent, built and founded an abbey at this place, about the year 670, and furnished it with veiled virgins to the number of seventy; herself becoming the first abbess. Mildred, her daughter succeeded her, and so far excelled her mother in piety, that she was canonized a saint, and the nunnery ever after was called by her name. It was destroyed by the Danes about the year 990.—Minster church, which is the most ancient in the island, is a handsome structure, consisting of three isles. It has eighteen collegiate stalls in the choir. On the floor, and in the church porch, are several large flat grave stones, which are very ancient.—In the last century a pot of Roman silver coins were ploughed up near Minster: the coins were chiefly of Lucius Aurelius Verus.

The small village of *Sarre* is the first village a traveller comes to in this island. This was formerly a large town, endowed



dowed with the privileges of a Cinque Port, and still belongs to Sandwich. The passage into this island is at this place, over a narrow stream.

To the left of the road, and six miles from Margate, is the church of *St. Nicholas*, which is an handsome building, but there are no monuments in it prior to the year 1500.

*Birchington* is a member of the town and port of Dover. The church is a neat building, and contains several ancient and modern monuments of the Queke and Crispe families, who resided at the ancient mansion in this parish, called *Quekes* or *Quex*. At this house king William the Third used to reside, until the winds favoured his embarking for Holland. A room, said to have been the bedchamber of this royal guest, is still shewn, together with an adjacent inclosure in which his guards encamped.

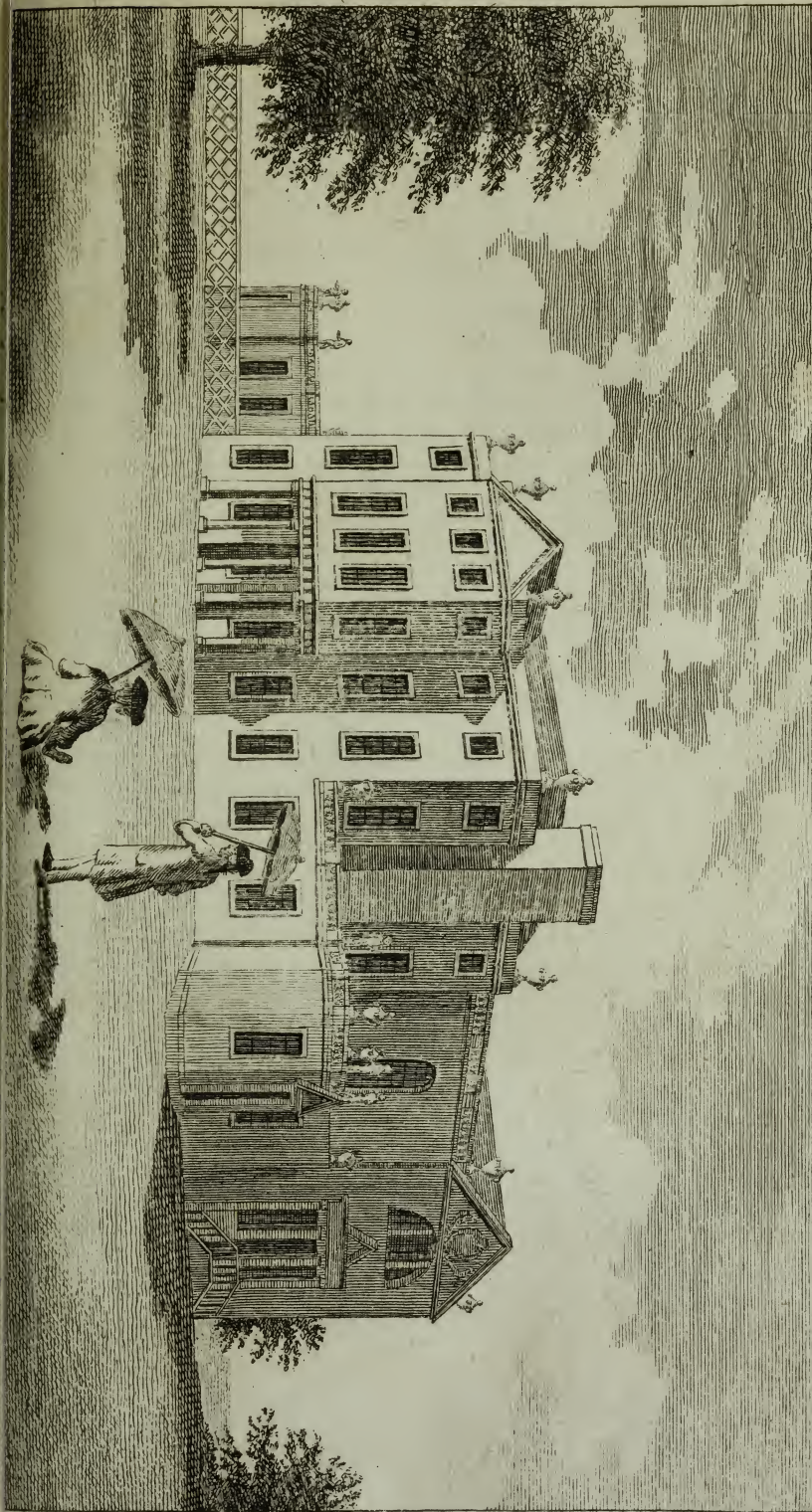
Between Minster and Margate is *Cleave Court*, an elegant building belonging to I. Farrer, Esq.

Beyond Minster are some downs, which are much celebrated for affording extensive and delightful prospects. Canterbury cathedral, the isle of Shepey, the Essex shore, Dover cliffs, and the town of Sandwich, may be each distinctly discerned from this pleasant spot.—From these downs (as the monks inform us) started Domneva's deer, which ran in an irregular course, quite across the island, in the ancient maps of which this tract is marked. King Egbert gave Domneva so much ground as the deer would run over at one course; which cut off the east end of the island, where she built her nunnery. This tract, from the name of her daughter, was called *St. Mildred's Lynch*, and was a bank of earth thrown up describing the ancient bounds of the two great manors of Monkton and Minster, and is yet visible in some places.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

On the brow of a hill near Erith, situated on the banks of the Thames, is *Belvedere House*, a very agreeable seat, belonging to Sir Sampson Gideon, Bart. It commands a vast  
extent















extent of a fine country many miles beyond the Thames, which is about a mile and an half distant. This river and its navigation add greatly to the beauty of this scene, which exhibits to the eye of the spectator a most pleasing and delightful landscape. The innumerable ships employed in the immense trade of London, are beheld continually sailing up and down the river. On the other side are prospects not less beautiful, though of another kind. The proprietor of this seat has very judiciously laid out his grounds, and made many beautiful vistas. The house is but small, though an addition has been made of a very noble room; this and two others are finely furnished with a valuable collection of pictures by the greatest masters; amongst which are the following: A portrait of Sir John Gage, by Hans Holbein; St. Catherine, by Leonardo da Vinci; Rembrandt painting an old woman, by himself; Snyders with his wife and child, by Rubens; boors at cards, by Teniers; the marriage in Cana of Galilee, by Paul Veronese; the genealogy of Christ, by Albert Durer; Herod consulting the wise men, by Rembrandt; and Mars and Venus, by Paul Veronese.

At *Foot's Cray*, which is about twelve miles from London, Mr. Harence has a very fine seat, which was built by the late Bouchier Cleve, Esq; after a design of Palladio, of the Ionic order, and is very elegant. The original design had four porticos, three of which are filled up in order to gain more room. The hall is octagonal, and has a gallery round, which conveys you to the bed-chambers. It is enlightened from the top, and is very beautiful. The edifice is built of stone, but the offices, which are on each side at some distance, are of brick. The house stands on a rising ground, with a gradual descent from it till you come to the water, which from the house appears to be a small river gliding along through the whole length of the ground; and in that part of the water which is opposite to the house, there is a fine cascade constantly flowing out of it. But this water, which appears to be such a pretty natural stream, and which has so pleasing an effect, is in reality artificial, and is brought from the river Cray, which runs just by. When the canal or cut, which is made through the ground to receive the water from the river, is full, it forms the cascade before the house, by flowing over in that place, and the surplus water being instantly buried in the ground, is again conveyed



vayed under this cut or canal to the main stream. The chief beauty of the ground about the house consists in its simplicity, it being entirely without ornament, and the whole of it a kind of lawn, having little besides the plain turf. The situation is pleasant, and the prospect from the house very good. The disposition of the rooms within the house appears to be very convenient, and the several apartments are elegantly finished. The gallery, which extends the whole length of the north front of the house, is a very grand room, and is filled with pictures by the most eminent masters.

The mansion called *Stone Castle* is to the right of the road between Dartford and Gravesend. The ancient structure is gone to ruins, and a modern building erected in its place, which is now the habitation of John Talbot, Esq.

Beyond the eighteenth mile-stone, on the left hand, is the seat of the late John Calcraft, Esq. The house is very convenient, and the gardens beautifully romantic. From a spacious and elegant room at the west end of the house, as well as from various parts of the gardens, the eye is entertained with views of the river and the Essex shore, that are perfectly enchanting; and upon the whole it is one of the most delightful spots on the banks of the Thames.

Near Northfleet, between the road and the Thames, is the seat of Thomas Chiffinch, Esq; which is pleasantly situated.

Near Eltham Sir John Shaw has a seat and plantations, which do honour to that gentleman's elegant taste.

On the east of the village of Lewisham lie the pleasant gardens of Mr. Blackwell, banker; they take in the valley and the hill above it, to which the ascent is through a beautiful shrubbery; and from the summit of the hill you command a very rich prospect on all sides, with the public Tunbridge road at a quarter of a mile distance in the bottom.

Near the village of Shorne is *Cobham Hall*, an ancient and noble structure, the original mansion of the Cobham family, but now the residence of the Earl of Darnley. In a large room in this house are the arms of Queen Elizabeth, and a  
 memorandum

memorandum of her having been entertained there by the then proprietor of this seat. The house was built by Inigo Jones, and is remarkable for the excellent marble chimney-pieces in most of the rooms. Here is an extensive park, well stocked with deer.

A little to the left of Gad's Hill, on an eminence, is the seat of the late Sir Francis Head, Bart, called *The Hermitage*; and close to the road, on a small ascent, is a neat building erected by Mr. Day.

At a little distance from Feverham Lord Sondes has an elegant seat, known by the name of *Lees Court*; and in this neighbourhood is also *Nash Court*, the handsome and pleasant seat of the Hawkins's family, with a ballustrated terrace on its top, fronted with a green park, in which are beautiful plantations.

At a little distance from Margate is a seat built by Lord Holland, in imitation of an Italian villa, with a noble portico fronting the sea. It contains several elegant apartments, with a variety of marble columns, busts, vases, &c. brought from Italy. His Lordship has also erected with chalk stones several buildings resembling Gothic towers, convents, &c. in ruins, and planted ivy round them to increase the deception.

Near this seat are *Hackendown Banks*, or *The Field of Battle Axes*, being the place where a fierce battle was fought in the year 854, between the Danes and Anglo-Saxons, which conflict was so near the cliff, that many fell into the sea; and some historians say, that both commanders were slain, and the victory doubtful. Here are two barrows or hills of earth, thought to have been the tombs of certain great officers killed in that battle. These barrows were opened some years since, and found to contain bodies bent together, and thrust into graves dug out of the chalk, a little below the surface, but not above three feet long. Several earthen urns, containing about two or three quarts, were also found, in which were ashes and charcoal, but they would not bear the air. Lord Holland has erected a monument, with an inscription, in the style of antiquity, to perpetuate this action.



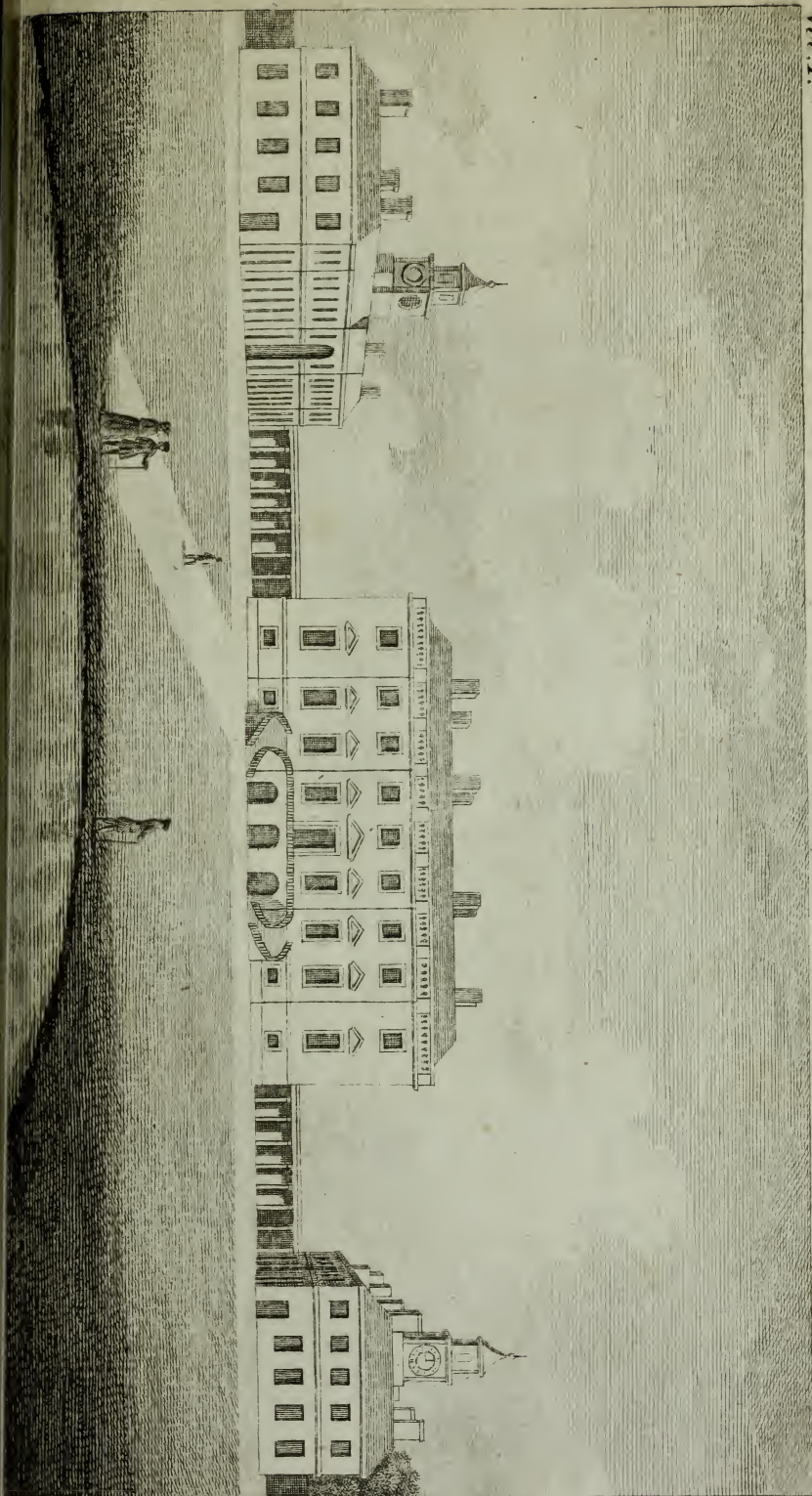
There are several noblemen's and gentlemen's seats on Blackheath, particularly those of the Duke of Montagu, the Earl of Chesterfield, the Earl of Dartmouth, and Lord Viscount Falkland, which greatly contribute to render that place as delightful as it is healthy.

Not far from Morden College is a noble house built by the late Sir Gregory Page, Bart. This is a very magnificent edifice, built in the modern taste, consisting of a basement, state, and attic story. The wings contain the offices and stables, which are joined to the body of the house by a colonade. It stands in the midst of a park, with a large piece of water before it. The back front has an Ionic portico of four columns, but having no pediment does not make so agreeable a figure as might be wished. This is one of the finest seats in England belonging to a private gentleman; and the gardens, park, and country around, render it a most delightful seat: Yet this fine edifice was begun, raised, and covered, in the space of eleven months.

On the south side of Blackheath, in the village of Lee, is the pleasant house and gardens of Henry Pelham, Esq; and in the street of Lee are the houses of the Hon. Henry Roper, of David Papillon, Esq; and of several other people of fashion; and on the north side of the street, is an old seat of the Boone family, with the remains of a grove, and a pleasant piece of water in the ground adjoining.

Between the village of Lee, Eltham, and Chislehurst, is an hamlet called Modingham, in which is a small seat of Lord Bathurst, with pleasant grounds about it; the beauty of the whole is owing to his lordship's improvements; and here is also a very old mansion which belonged to the ancient family of the Stoddards.

Between Lee, and the summit of the hill, next Blackheath, are the elegant gardens and pleasure grounds belonging to the villa of the late Sir Samuel Fludyer, Bart. which are now the property of his daughter. The house is not large, but has a very handsome apartment upon the first floor, towards the gardens and pleasure grounds; and the prospects from these rooms to Shooter's Hill, Eltham, and Lee, and into Sir Gregory







gory Page's beautiful grounds and park, with the woods of Greenwich Park skirting the view to the north, are most picturesque and beautiful. The front of the house commands the Dulwich hills, with Lewisham church placed in the very centre of the view below them.

In the parish of Waldershire, which is six miles and an half from Sandwich, the Earl of Guildford has a very elegant and pleasant seat. To the west of the house is erected a high belvidere, which commands a beautiful and extensive view of the country.

On the right of Barham Downs is *Denhill House and Gardens*, the seat of Lady Gray; and near it, in the small village of Wymblingswood, is *Nethersole House*, the mansion of — Winchester, Esq.

Near Beakesborne, Sir Thomas Pym Hales has a fine seat, known by the name of *Howlets*.

In the parish of Cheshilhurst is *Camden Place*, the seat of Lord Camden. It is a very handsome and agreeable retreat; and over a well in the lawn near the house, his Lordship has erected, under the direction of Mr. Stuart, the celebrated piece of architecture, called *The Lanthorn of Demosthenes*, on the same scale as the original, from an actual drawing made by that gentleman in Greece.

*Coomb Bank*, about six miles from Sevenoke, is the pleasant seat of his Grace the Duke of Argyle. It possesses a very delightful situation, which has received great additions and improvements from the present noble owner.

*Danson Hill*, about eleven miles from London, in the parish of Bexley, is the elegant and new built seat of Sir John Boyd, Bart. The house is a pleasing uniform building, with handsome wings, and contains some fine apartments. The grounds are very beautifully disposed, and adorned with a very grand sheet of water; which, with woods, plantations, and agreeable inequalities of surface, form a very delightful scene. The house presents itself to the view of every traveller, between the ten and eleven mile stones on the Dover road.



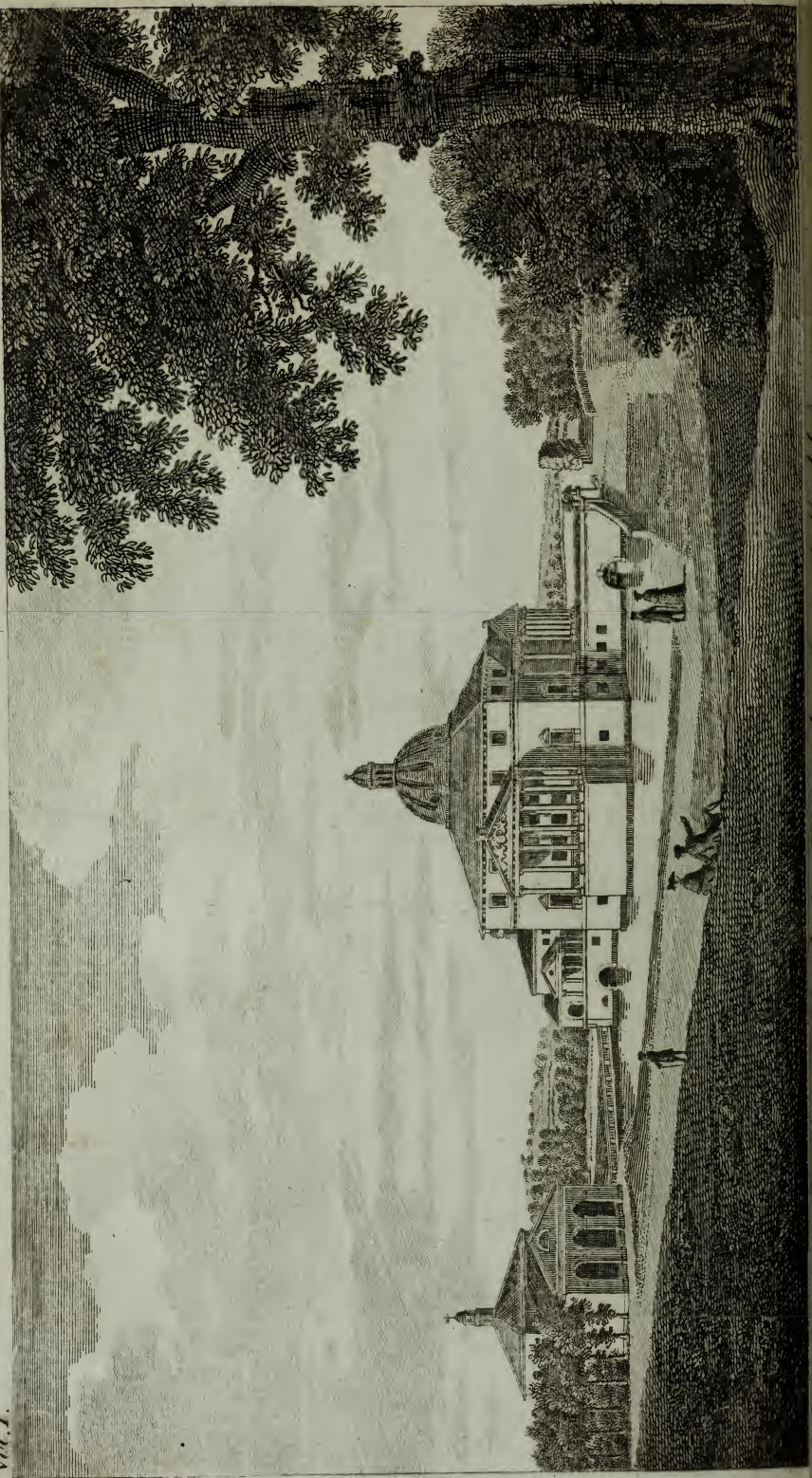
Adjoining to River-head, a small village near Sevenoake, is *Montreal*, the seat of Lord Amherst, Baron Holmesdale, which is the name of the valley wherein it is situated. In the park is a column erected to perpetuate the happy meeting of this noble Lord and his brother, who, after having been engaged on different eminent and perilous services in distant parts of the globe during the war before last, and gained honour both to themselves and their country, were permitted, by the grace of Heaven, to embrace each other on their native spot. Here is also a very beautiful hermitage.

*Penshurst* is three miles south-west of Tunbridge, and was the ancient seat of the noble family of Sidney, but at present of William Perry, Esq. This seat was forfeited to the crown by the attainder of one of the Vane family, who followed the fortune of the unhappy Somerset in the reign of King Edward the Sixth. That Monarch bestowed it upon the father of Sir Henry Sidney, in whose arms he expired. This fact is mentioned in an inscription over the gate of the tower, through which you pass into the court-yard, which is a very large ancient quadrangle of hewn stone, and was fortified in old times, being reckoned a place of great strength. Here are many more rooms than are shewn to strangers: those that are opened are well furnished, and contain good pictures, tables, pillars, and vases of fine marble brought lately from Italy, well worthy the inspection of the curious. The house lies very low, and close to a mean village, of great antiquity, of the same name. A powerful family, named Penshurst or Pencheſter was settled here in the time of William the Conqueror, which has been long extinct. The park, which was formerly very considerable, is at present but small, being inclosed and divided into farms.—The famous Sir Philip Sidney was born here; and it was here the celebrated Waller wrote many of his best pieces, under the auspices of Lady Dorothy Sidney, whom he has immortalized by the name of Saccharissa. This Lady was daughter to Sidney Earl of Leicester, to whom Penshurst then belonged; and wife to Henry Lord Spencer, created Earl of Sunderland by King Charles the First, in whose defence he was slain, gallantly fighting at Newbury.

Not far from Penshurst is a noble structure, mouldering into ruins, called *Somer Hill*, which stands very high, and has  
a most







a most extensive command of country. It anciently belonged to the Earls of Hertford and Gloucester. Somer Hill being forfeited to the crown by Stafford Duke of Buckingham, was given by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Francis Walsingham, with whose daughter it passed into the hands of three great families; for she was married to three different husbands. Her first was the renowned Sir Philip Sidney; her second, the unfortunate Earl of Essex; and her third Ulick de Burgh, Marquis of Clanrickard, Earl of St. Alban's, Viscount Tunbridge, and Baron Somer Hill, one of the most remarkable and accomplished noblemen of King Charles the First's time. King Charles the Second, who used to come sometimes to Tunbridge, kept his retinue at Somer Hill.

*Mereworth Castle* is situated two miles south-east of Malling; it was formerly the seat of the Earl of Westmoreland, but is now in the possession of Lord Despenfer. It is esteemed a very fine piece of architecture, and was designed by Colin Campbell, in imitation of a palace in Italy, built by the famous Palladio. It is a square, extending eighty-eight feet, and has four porticos of the Ionic order. In the middle there rises above the roof a semi-circular dome, which has two shells; the one forms the stucco-cieling of the saloon, being thirty-six feet in diameter; the outward shell is carpentry, covered with lead: between these two shells is a strong brick arch, that brings twenty-four funnels to the lanthorn, which is finished with copper; but by this contrivance there is occasioned an inconvenience—the chimneys often smoke.

At Knowle, in the neighbourhood of Sevenoke, the Duke of Dorset has a fine seat; the park and gardens belonging to which are laid out in a very elegant manner.

At Hayes, near Bromley, is the seat of the late illustrious Earl of Chatham. The house, though not large and regular, is elegant and pleasing, and so embosomed in plantations, laid out with the greatest taste, as to be quite excluded from public view. It was the favourite residence of the late Earl, and is now chiefly inhabited by his Countess.

Near Westram is a very noble seat, which was begun to be built by a private gentleman; but it was finished by the late Earl.



Earl of Jersey, and called *Squirries*. The house stands on a small eminence with respect to the front ; but on the back of the edifice the house rises very high, and is divided into several slopes. Near the house are some woods, through which are cut several ridings. On the other side of the hill, behind the house, arise nine springs, which, uniting their streams, form the river Darent.

On the east side of Blackheath stands *Morden-College*, erected for the support of poor decayed merchants, by Sir John Morden, Bart. a Turkey merchant, several years before his death, which happened in the year 1708. It consists of a large brick building, with two small wings, strengthened at the corners with stone rustic. The principal entrance, which is in the centre, is decorated with Doric columns, festoons, and a pediment on the top, over which rises a turret, with a dial ; and from the dome, which is supported by scrolls, rises a ball and fane. To this entrance there is an ascent by a flight of circular steps ; and having ascended them, and passed through this part of the building, we enter an inner square, surrounded with piazzas. The chapel is neatly wainscotted, and has a costly altar-piece ; and it has a burying-ground adjoining, for the members of the college. The founder, by his own desire, was buried in a vault under the communion table of the chapel. Sir John Morden erected his college at a small distance from his own habitation, in a place called *Great Stone Field*, and endowed it, after his Lady's decease, with his whole real copyhold and personal estate, to the value of about one thousand three hundred pounds a year. He placed in this hospital, twelve decayed Turkey merchants in his lifetime ; but, after his decease, Lady Morden, finding that the share allotted her by Sir John's last will, was not sufficient for her decent support, some parts of the estate not answering so well as had been expected, she was obliged to reduce the number to four. But on her death the whole estate coming to the college, the number was increased, and there are at this time thirty-five poor gentlemen ; and the number not being limited, it is to be increased as the estate will afford ; for the building will conveniently hold forty. The treasurer is allowed forty pounds a year ; and the chaplain, who reads prayers twice a day, and preaches twice every Sunday, had at first a salary of thirty pounds per annum, which Lady Morden doubled at her death

death. This lady was in several respects a benefactress to the college; and as she put up her husband's statue in a niche over the gate, the trustees have put up her's in another niche, adjoining to that of her husband. The treasurer, chaplain, and pensioners, are obliged to reside in the college; and except in cases of sickness, no other persons are to reside, live, or lodge there; but no person can be admitted as a pensioner who cannot make it appear that he is above sixty years of age. The pensioners have each twenty pounds a year, and at first wore gowns, with the founder's badge; but this badge has not been worn for some years. They have a common table in the hall to eat and drink together at meals; and each has a convenient apartment, with a cellar. Seven Turkey merchants have the direction of this hospital, and the nomination of persons to be admitted into it: to them the treasurer is accountable, and whenever any of these die, the surviving trustees chuse others in their stead.

*Deptford* is a large and populous place in the county of Kent, about four miles and an half from London. It was anciently called *West Greenwich*; and is said to have received its present name, from its having a deep ford over the little river Ravensbourn, near its influx into the Thames, where it has now a bridge. It is divided into Upper and Lower Deptford, which contain together two churches, several meeting-houses, and about one thousand nine hundred houses. It is most remarkable for its noble dock, where the royal navy was formerly built and repaired, till it was found more convenient to build the large ships at places where there is a greater depth of water; but notwithstanding this, the yard is enlarged to more than double its former dimensions, and a vast number of hands are constantly employed. It has a wet dock of two acres for ships, and another of an acre and an half, with vast quantities of timber and other stores, and extensive buildings, as store-houses and offices for the use of the place; besides dwelling-houses for those officers who are obliged to live upon the spot, in order to superintend the works. Here the royal yachts are generally kept; and near the dock is the seat of Sir John Evelyn, called Says Court, where that justly celebrated Prince, Peter the Great, Czar of Muscovy, resided for some time; and in this yard compleated his knowledge and skill in the practical part of naval architecture.

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In this town are two hospitals, one of which was incorporated by Henry the Eighth, in the form of a college, for the use of seamen, and is commonly called *Trinity House* of Deptford Strond: this contains twenty-one houses, and is situated near the church. The other, called *Trinity Hospital*, has thirty-eight houses fronting the street. This is a very handsome edifice, and has large gardens, well kept, belonging to it. Though this last is the finest structure, yet the other has the preference, on account of its antiquity; and as the brethren of the Trinity hold their corporation by that house, they are obliged at certain times to meet there for business.— Both the houses are for decayed pilots, or masters of ships, or their widows; the men being allowed twenty shillings, and the women sixteen shillings a month.

*Trinity House* was founded in the year 1515, by Sir Thomas Spert, Knight, commander of the great ship Henry Grace de Dieu, and comptroller of the navy, for the regulation of seamen, and the convenience of ships and mariners on our coast, and incorporated, as we observed, by Henry the Eighth, who confirmed to them not only the ancient rights and privileges of the company of mariners of England, but their several possessions at Deptford; which, together with the grants of Queen Elizabeth and King Charles the Second, were also confirmed by letters patent of the first of King James the Second, in 1685. The master, wardens, assistants, and elder brethren of this corporation, are by charter invested with the power of examining the masters of his Majesty's ships, and also the mathematical children of Christ's Hospital, of appointing pilots to conduct ships in and out of the river Thames; and of amercing all such as shall presume to act as masters of ships of war or pilots without their approbation. It is their business also to settle the several rates of pilotage, and erect light-houses and other sea-marks, upon the several coasts of the kingdom, for the security of navigation; to which light-houses all ships pay one half-penny per ton. They are likewise empowered to grant licences to poor seamen, not free of the city, to row on the river Thames for their support, in the intervals of sea-service, or when past going to sea; and to prevent aliens from serving on board English ships, without their licence, upon the penalty of five pounds for each offence. They are likewise authorized to punish seamen for desertion or mutiny in the merchants service; and to hear and determine the

the complaints of officers and seamen in the merchants service ; but subject to an appeal to the Lords of the Admiralty, or the Judge of the Court of Admiralty. To this company belongs the Ballast Office for clearing and deepening the river Thames, by taking from thence a sufficient quantity of ballast for the supply of all ships that sail out of that river ; in which service sixty barges, with two men in each, are constantly employed, and all ships that take in ballast pay them one shilling a ton, for which it is brought to the ships sides.

We have been the more particular in enumerating the powers and the business of this corporation, because its authority and powers are of so extensive a nature, and of so much importance to us as a maritime state. We shall, therefore, further observe, that there are annually relieved by this company about three thousand poor seamen, their widows, and orphans ; and this, as it is said, at the expence of about six thousand pounds. They meet frequently at their house in Water-Lane, Thames-street, generally on Wednesdays and Saturdays ; but their courts are not constantly fixed to a set time. Their house in Water-Lane has been twice burnt down, once at the fire of London, and the last time in 1718. Among the curiosities preserved in the hall of this building is a flag taken from the Spaniards by the famous Sir Francis Drake, whose picture is also there ; also a large and exact model of a ship entirely rigged, and two large globes ; and in the parlour are five large drawings, curiously performed by the pen, of several engagements at sea in the reign of Charles the Second.

*Chatham* is a suburb to Rochester, and perhaps the completest naval arsenal in the world. It affords a sight, equally noble and pleasing to every one who is sensible how much the safety and prosperity of this nation depends on its maritime strength. It has been brought to its present state of perfection by degrees, the dock having been begun by Queen Elizabeth, and continually improved by her successors.

This celebrated dock-yard, including the ordnance wharf, is about a mile in length ; it is ranged on the south-east side of the river, and is adorned with many elegant buildings, inhabited by the commissioner and principal officers belonging to the yard, which well become the opulence of the nation and the importance of the navy. Here are many neat and com-



modious offices for transacting the business of the yard; also spacious storehouses (one of which is six hundred and sixty feet in length) and work rooms, which, by their amplitude, manifest their prodigious contents, and the extensive works carried on within them.

The sail loft, in which the sails are made, is two hundred and nine feet in length. In these magazines are deposited amazing quantities of sails, rigging, hemp, flax, pitch, tar, rosin, oil, and every ingredient necessary for the building and equipping of ships. The coils of cordage and heaps of blocks, with innumerable other articles, are arranged with such order, that on any emergency, they may be taken out without the least confusion.—To every apartment proper officers and attendants are assigned, for the more expeditious dispatch of business, so that even a first or second rate ship of the line is often equipped for sea in a few weeks.

The masts are carefully deposited in storehouses peculiarly adapted for them; one of which, in this yard, is two hundred and thirty-six feet in length, and one hundred and twenty feet wide. Some of these masts are near one hundred and twenty feet long, and thirty-six inches in diameter. There are also two spacious basons of water, in which these masts are kept continually floating.

The smith's shop contains twenty-one fires. Here the anchors are made, some of which weigh near five tons.

In an extensive rope-house, which is upwards of seven hundred feet in length, large quantities of hemp are twisted into cables one hundred and twenty fathoms long, and some of them twenty-two inches round.

In this yard are four deep and wide docks, for docking and repairing large ships. In one of these docks was built the *Victory*, a first rate, one of the largest ships in the universe, carrying one hundred and ten guns. There are also four slips and launches, on which new ships are constantly building.

The ordnance wharf is situated to the south of the dock-yard, between Chatham church and the river, and was the original naval yard. The guns belonging to the ships in this river are here deposited in long tiers: some of these guns weigh sixty-five hundred weight each. Large pyramids of shot are to be seen on different parts of this wharf.

There are also capacious store-houses, in which are deposited prodigious quantities of offensive weapons, as muskets, pistols,

pistols, cutlasses, pikes, pole-axes, &c. &c. The armoury is a curious assemblage of every kind of hostile weapons, arranged in admirable order.

To defend this vast naval magazine there is a strong garrison at Sheerness, the entrance into the Medway. A fort is also erected at Gillingham. For the further security of this yard ramparts are thrown up.

That which is called *The Chest*, at Chatham, was instituted in 1588, the memorable year of the defeat of the Spanish Armada; when, by the advice of Sir Francis Drake, Sir John Hawkins, and others, the seamen in the service of Queen Elizabeth, voluntarily assigned a portion of each man's pay to the relief of their wounded fellows; which method being confirmed by the Queen, has been continued ever since.

Two annual fairs are held at Chatham, one on the 15th of May, and the other on the 19th of September.

About four miles from Rochester stands the pleasant village of *Shorne*, the church belonging to which has several ancient monuments in it, especially of the Cobham family.

In *Cobham Church* are several ancient and curious monuments of the Cobham family. Near the church is a college, founded about the year 1389, by John de Cobham, and suppressed by King Henry the Eighth. But it was founded anew, on a reformed plan, by Sir William Brooke (afterwards Lord Cobham) in 1597. Twenty poor persons, with their families, are admitted into this college, from the adjacent parishes.

On the other side of the London road is the parish of *Higham*, where was a nunnery of the Benedictine order.

Near Higham are the remains of the ancient town of *Clive at Hoo*, now called *Cliff*, by many writers supposed to have been the *Gloveshoe*, where so many councils were held during the Saxon heptarchy.

Not far from Cliff is *Cooling Castle*, erected by John Lord Cobham, about the year 1380; it being granted to him by King Richard the Second, which grant he caused to be cut on a large stone, and placed on the front of the castle—part of it is still visible. This castle was a place of considerable strength,



and surrounded by a deep moat. Two round towers, which form the entrance, are still standing, as are some fragments of towers erected for its defence in different parts of the walls. The pious and intrepid Sir John Oldcastle, who in the reign of Henry the Fifth fell a victim to papal cruelty, resided in this castle: part of it is now a farm house.

About three miles from Rochester, on the road towards London, is *Gad's Hill*, supposed to have been the scene of the robbery mentioned by Shakspear in his play of Henry the Fourth.

*Charlton* is a pleasant and well built village, on the north side of Blackheath. It is particularly famous for a disorderly fair held in its neighbourhood on the 18th of October, St. Luke's Day; when the mob, who wear horns on their heads, used to take all kinds of liberties, and the lewd and vulgar women who attended there gave a loose to all manner of indecency; but these irregularities have of late years been much restrained. This is called *Horn Fair*, and there are sold at it rams horns, horn toys, and wares of all sorts. Of this whimsical fair, a vulgar tradition gives the following origin: It is said that King John, who had a palace at Eltham, in this neighbourhood, being out a hunting near Charlton, which was then a mean hamlet, was separated from his attendants; when entering a cottage, he found the mistress of it alone, who being handsome, the King became enamoured of her, and as she was not the most modest of her sex, he found means to debauch her: but, in the mean time, her husband came in, and caught them in the fact; and threatening to kill them both, the King was forced to discover himself, and to purchase his safety with gold. Besides which, he gave the husband all the land from thence as far as the place now called *Cuckold's Point*, and also bestowed on him the whole hamlet; establishing a fair, as a condition of his holding his new demesne, in which horns were both to be sold and worn. A sermon is preached on the fair day in the church, which is one of the handsomest in the county. It was beautified and repaired by Sir Adam Newton, Bart. who was tutor to King James the First's son, Prince Henry; this manor being granted by this Monarch to that gentleman.







At the entrance of the village stands the ancient manor-house built by Sir Adam Newton. The two last Earls of Egmont inhabited this mansion some years ago; but it is now in the possession of Mr. Jones, who married the heiress of it. It is a stately Gothic structure, with four turrets on the top; the court before the house is spacious; and there are two large Gothic piers to the gates; and on the outside of the wall is a long row of some of the oldest cypress trees in England. Behind the house are large gardens, and beyond these a small park, which joins to Woolwich Common.

*Lee* is a pleasant village on the south side of Blackheath. On the summit of the hill stands its ancient, but small church. The church-yard is neat, and much ornamented with costly monuments of statuary and black marble. That great astronomer Dr. Edward Halley lies buried here under a plain table tomb, with an inscription of some length in Latin. In the church, on the north of the communion table, is a stately arched monument of alabaster, supported with columns of black marble of the Corinthian order. The rectory house, and that of Thomas Edlyne, Esq; on the eminence near the church, command from every side of them very pleasing views, the adjacent grounds being highly improved, and the near and distant prospects enriched with seats, farm-houses, towns, and villages; the Kentish and Dulwich hills in the front, and Blackheath and Greenwich Park behind; with an extensive view, over London and Westminster, of the Middlesex hills, which bound the horizon to the north-west.

Near the road from Dartford to Gravesend, is a large common called *Dartford Brink*, where Edward the Third held a solemn tournament in the year 1331. The contest between the families of York and Lancaster began here, when Richard Plantaganet, Duke of York, &c. in the year 1452, brought together on this spot an army of ten thousand men. At present it is the theatre of more peaceful scenes, as appears by the booths erected on a part of it, in which the spectators behold the great cricket-matches that are played on this agreeable spot.

About half a mile to the left of the road, between Dartford and Gravesend, is the venerable church of *Stone*, which has in it several ancient monuments.

The



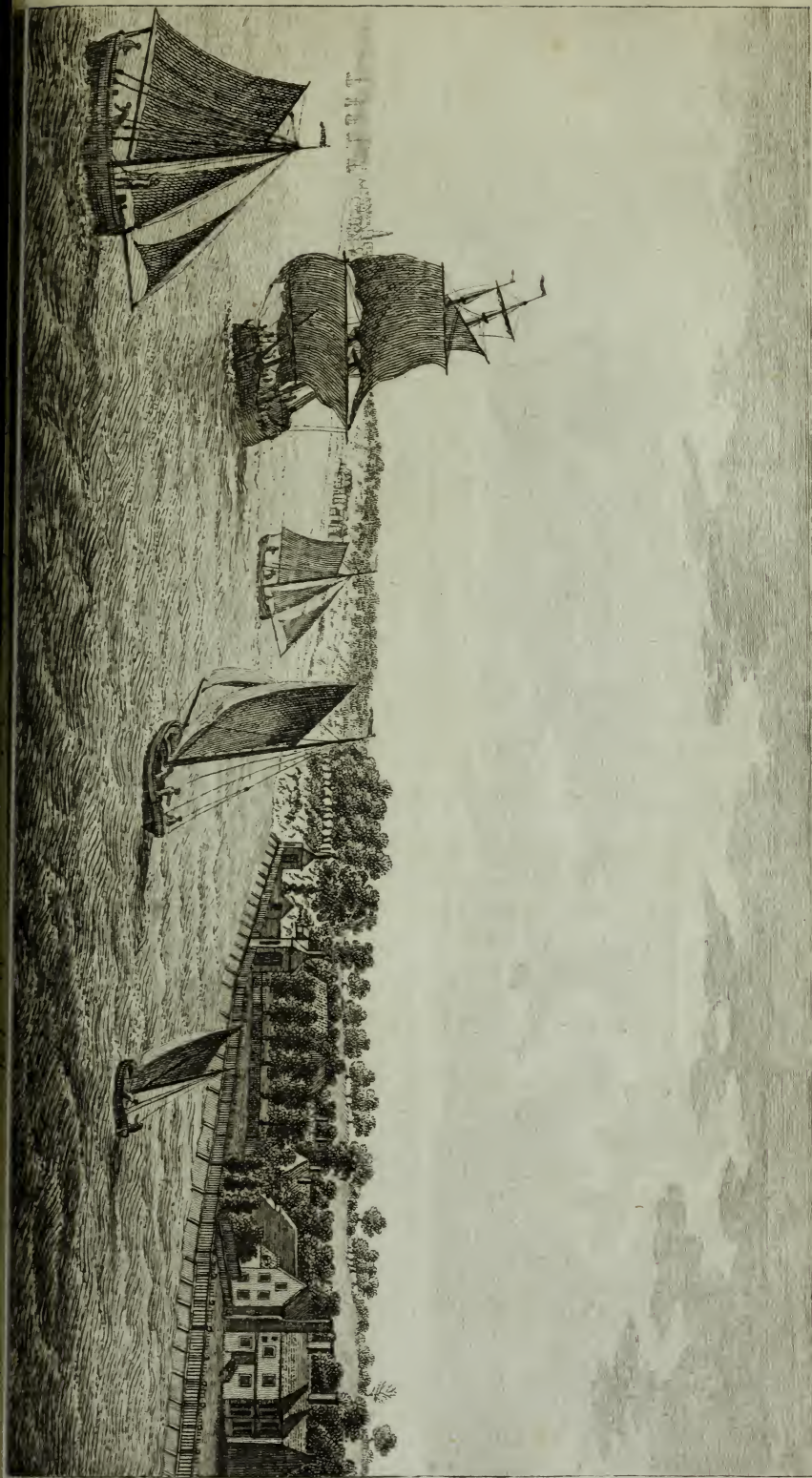
The country about Greenhithe and Swanscombe is famous for being the rendezvous of the Danish free-booters, who drew their fleet into the inlet or rivulet that formerly was pretty deep between the hills, on which Northfleet and Swanscomb are situated.

*Swanscomb* derives its name from a captain of the Danish free-booters called *Swein*, who there pitched his camp, and from whom it was denominated *Swein's Camp*. There still remain several small hills cast up by these free-booters, and called *Sconces*, being stations for a small number of men employed as centinels, when their camp was here. Swanscomb is also said to be the place, where the Kentish men, sheltered with boughs in their hands like a moving wood, surprized William the Conqueror, and, throwing down their boughs, threatened battle, if they had not their ancient customs and franchises, which he thereupon granted them. There is a fair held here on Whit-Tuesday.

The ascent from this valley to the village of *Northfleet* has been lately made very easy, and much improved. This village stands on an eminence near Gravesend, and is very ancient, being found recorded in Doomsday Book. The church contains several ancient monuments.

*Cheshilhurst*, or *Chislehurst*, which is about three miles from Bromley, is famous for being the retirement of our celebrated Camden, who resided here for several years, and here composed the greatest part of his annals of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He died here in 1623, but his body was carried to London, and buried in Westminster Abbey. At this place also that great statesman, Sir Francis Walsingham, was born.

*Eltham* is a pleasant place, seven miles from London, in the midway between Bromley and the Thames. It is full of good houses, and some families of rich citizens inhabit here. There was formerly a royal palace here, which some say was built by Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham, who bestowed it upon Queen Eleanor, the wife of Edward the First; but others say there was a royal palace here before that time. However, Edward the Second constantly resided in this palace, and his son being born here, was on that account called John  
of







of Eltham. The palace here was much enlarged by the succeeding Kings, who when the court was kept at Greenwich, often retired hither. There are, however, no traces of the palace now remaining. Here are two charity schools.

*Lewisham* is a pleasant village upon the Tunbridge road, near three miles from Eltham, and south-west of Blackheath. Near this village, upon the declivity of Blackheath, is a free-school, for the benefit of several parishes in the hundred of Blackheath. It is now, and hath long since been a considerable boarding school, preserving at the same time the original institution. It was founded in the last century by Abraham Colfe, vicar of Lewisham, who bequeathed other charities to the parish of Lewisham.

About three miles from Faversham is the antient village of *Harbledown*, the church of which is situated on an hill west of the street. Opposite to the church is the hospital and chapel, originally built and endowed by Archbishop Lanfranc, about the year 1080, for the benefit of poor lepers. This was the place that formerly held the precious relick, called *St. Thomas Becket's Slipper*, neatly set in copper and chrystal, mentioned by Erasmus. The numerous pilgrims to the shrine of St. Thomas used to stop here, and kiss his slipper, as a preparation for their more solemn approach to his tomb. Since the reformation, this hospital is continued for the relief of poor persons.

About half a mile to the south of King's-gate, is *The North Foreland Light-house*, for the direction of ships by night, to secure them from the Godwin Sands and this head land. It was formerly built of wood, but being burnt down, the present strong flint octagon was erected about the beginning of the present century; at its top is an iron grate, on which a large coal fire blazes all night: For the support of this light, the owner of every ship belonging to Great Britain, that sails by this Foreland, pays two-pence per ton, and every foreigner four-pence.

North Foreland is a point declared by act of parliament to be the most southern part of the port of London, which by the same act is extended north in a right line, forming the mouth of the Thames, to the point called *The Naze*, on the east of  
Essex.



**Essex.** All the towns or harbours between London and these places, whether on the Kentish or Essex shore, are called members of the port of London. As soon as vessels have passed the South Foreland, out of the port of London, or any of its members, they are said to be in the open sea; if to the north they enter the German Ocean; if to the south the British Channel.

Near Dover Castle there is a head of land called *South Foreland*, by way of distinction from another head or promontory, which forms the north-east point of the Kentish shore, and is therefore called *North Foreland*. These two points lying at the distance of six miles from each other, are the two most easterly in Kent; the coast between them is sheltered by them on the south and north, and by a bank of sand, running parallel to the shore for three leagues together, and at the distance of a league and an half from it, called *Godwin Sands*, on the east. Thus the South Foreland, North Foreland, Godwin Sands, and the coast, form a tolerable good road for ships, which is called *The Downs*, and which would otherwise be very dangerous, for the Godwin Sands, which are dry at low water, break all the force of the sea on the east, south, and south-west; yet when the wind blows excessively hard at south-east, east-by-north, and east-north-east, ships are driven from their anchors, and forced ashore on the Godwin Sands, or sent into Sandwich Bay, or Ramsgate Pier, near Sandwich.

*Barham Downs*, which are about sixty-two miles from London, are celebrated for the annual horse races which are there exhibited. Several villages, and elegant gentlemen's seats, are situated on the right and left of the Downs; on the right is an eminence, and on the left a beautiful vale, in which runs a small branch of the river Stour. To the left of the Downs, is the village of *Barham*, which gives name to this delightful spot. The church has in it some monuments of the Diggs family, who resided at *Diggs Court*, in this parish.

On Barham Downs is the site of an ancient camp, with three ditches round it, which some conjecture to be the work of Julius Cæsar, on his second expedition to this island. About the year 1212, King John encamped here with an army of sixty thousand men, to oppose the French, who threatened him with an invasion. Simon Montford, Earl of Leicester,

cester, also drew up a large army on these Downs in the reign of Henry the Third.

About a mile from Sandwich, at a small distance from the road which leads to Dover, is the village of *Wodensborough*. The church contains memorials of the Paramour and Heyre families; and near it is a remarkable eminence, supposed to have been raised by the Saxons as a pedestal for their idol Woden, which stood upon it, and from which the place derives its name.

In going from Dover to Folkestone, the traveller meets with six or seven very romantic miles; the road runs along the edge of vast precipices, the shore very high and bold, and nobly varied. From the hill going down into Folkestone, the view is extremely fine: You look down on a fine sweep of inclosures, many of them grass, of the most pleasing verdure. The town, with its church on a point of land close to the sea. The edge of the lower grounds describe as beautiful an outline as can be imagined: The union of the land and sea complete. As you descend the hill, the prospect extends to the right: The vale opens, and spreads to the view a fine range of inclosures, bounded to the land by many hills, rising in a great variety of forms. The whole scenery is very magnificent.

*Rumney Marsh* is the richest tract of grazing land in this part of the kingdom. It contains between forty and fifty thousand acres of fruitful land, on which vast flocks of sheep, and herds of black cattle are fattened, which are sent hither from other parts, and sold in the London markets. The sheep are reckoned larger than those of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire; and their bullocks are esteemed the largest in England, especially those they call stalled oxen, from their being kept all the latter season within the farmers' yards, or sheds, where they are fed for the winter season. This marsh is the place from whence a set of smugglers, called *Owlers*, from their going out in the dusk of the evening, have for many years exported our wool to France. It is supposed to have been once covered by the sea; and, as it is very unwholesome, is but thinly inhabited.



Five miles from the town of Tunbridge, at the very edge of the county, are *Spelhurst Wells*, more commonly called *Tunbridge Wells*, which are much frequented on account of their mineral waters. These wells are at the bottom of the walks, which are handsomely paved: on one side is the assembly-room, the coffee-rooms, the booksellers shops, jewellers and milliners shops, and shops for china, and for Tunbridge-ware, which is made here to great perfection out of holly, cherry-tree, and sycamore; of which a great quantity grows hereabouts. On the other side of the walks are coffee-rooms, another assembly-room, taverns, and lodging-houses. The music gallery is in the middle of the walks, which are beautifully shaded with trees: a piazza extends from the upper end to the bottom, quite down to the wells. The houses and lodgings are very neat and commodious; most of them on the hills contiguous, called Mount Sion, Mount Ephraim, and Mount Pleasant. Here is a decent chapel, which was built by subscription, and where divine service is performed every day: the clergyman is paid by public contribution for his attendance. Here is also a dissenting meeting-house.

The high rocks are about a mile from the walks, of which there are a vast number adjoining to each other, and several of them are seventy or eighty feet high; and at many places there are cliffs and cavities, that lead through them by narrow dark passages; and their being situated among the woods, by a little winding brook, makes them afford a most retired and delightful scene.

On the south side of Greenwich lies *Blackheath*, a large plain, so called from the blackness of the soil. It is much admired for the beauty of its situation, and its excellent air; and has been rendered memorable by being the theatre of several remarkable transactions. It was here the Danish army lay a considerable time encamped in 1011, and it was here that the famous Wat Tyler, the Kentish rebel mustered one hundred thousand men. Jack Cade also, who stiled himself John Mortimer, and laid claim to the crown, pretending that he was kinsman to the Duke of York, encamped on this heath for a month together, with a large body of rebels, which he had gathered together in this and the neighbouring counties, in 1451. And the following year Henry the Sixth pitched

pitched his royal pavilion here, having assembled troops to withstand the force of his cousin, Edward Duke of York, who was afterwards Edward the Fourth. And here against that King, did the bastard Falconbridge likewise encamp. And in 1497, the Lord Audley; Flemmock, an attorney; and Joseph the blacksmith; encamped on this place, in the rebellion they raised against Henry the Seventh. And here that politic and warlike Prince routed them, killing above two thousand on the spot, and taking about fourteen thousand prisoners.

In 1415, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, with four hundred citizens in scarlet, and with red and white hoods on, came to Blackheath, where they met that victorious Prince, Henry the Fifth, who was just returned from France after the famous battle of Agincourt; and from Blackheath they conducted his Majesty to London. And in 1474, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, attended by five hundred citizens, also met Edward the Fourth here, on his return from France. It appears also to have been usual formerly to meet foreign Princes, and other persons of high rank on Blackheath, on their arrival in England. On the 21st of December 1411, Maurice, Emperor of Constantinople, who came to solicit assistance against the Turks, was met here, with great magnificence by Henry the Fourth. And in 1416, the Emperor Sigismund was met here, and from hence conducted in great pomp to London. In 1518, the Lord-Admiral of France, and the Archbishop of Paris, both Ambassadors from the French King, with above twelve hundred attendants, were met here by the Admiral of England and above five hundred gentlemen. And the following year Cardinal Campejus, the Pope's legate, being attended hither by the gentlemen of Kent, was met by the Duke of Norfolk, and many noblemen and prelates of England; and here in a tent of cloth of gold he put on his Cardinal's robes, richly ermined, and from hence rode to London. And here also Henry the Eighth met the Princess Anne of Cleves, in very great state and pomp, and was soon after married to her. Two fairs are held here annually, one on the 12th of May, and another on the 11th of October, for bullocks, horses, and toys.



*Shooter's Hill*, which is near Blackheath, was formerly used as a butt for archers, and was in great request till King Henry the Eighth's time, from whence some say it took its name. But others tell us, though this appears less probable, that it received its name from the frequent robberies that were committed here. It was common, it is said, for thieves to lay lurking in the woods about here, in order to shoot passengers, and then rifle them. And in the sixth year of King Richard the Second an order was made for enlarging the high road here, according to the statute of King Edward the First. And King Henry the Fourth granted leave to Thomas Chapman, to cut down and sell the wood here, that it might not be an harbour for thieves; and to lay out the money raised thereby for the improvement of the highway. And in July, 1739, a very good design was begun to be put in execution on Shooter's Hill, a number of hands being employed in cutting a new road, wide enough for three carriages to pass a-breast, on the eastern descent of the hill, which was formerly so narrow, that it was impossible for a passenger, if way-laid, to escape falling into a ruffian's hands, which was the cause of many robberies here.

King Henry the Eighth, and his Queen Katharine, once came in very great splendour, on a May-day, from Greenwich to Shooter's Hill; and here they were received by two hundred archers, all dressed in green, with one personating Robin Hood as their Captain, who first shewed the King the skill of his archers in shooting, and then leading the ladies into the wood, gave them a fine entertainment of venison and wine, in green arbours, and booths adorned with fine pageants, and all the efforts of romantic gallantry.

Shooter's Hill affords a most noble and extensive prospect, not only into almost all parts of this county, but into Suffex, Surrey, and Essex; and also of the cities of London and Westminster, and both up and down the river Thames, where the continual passage of numerous vessels, and boats of all kinds, yields a most pleasing and delightful appearance. A design was some time since formed of building a town here, but it is now laid aside.

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## LANCASHIRE.

**T**HIS county is bounded by parts of Cumberland and Westmoreland on the north, by Cheshire on the south, by Yorkshire on the east, and by the Irish sea on the west: towards the north it is divided by an arm of the sea, which renders that part of Lancashire adjoining to Cumberland a peninsula. The figure of this county is much like that of England: it measures thirty-two miles in breadth, from east to west, fifty-seven in length, from north to south, and one hundred and seventy miles in circumference.

This county is divided into six hundreds: it has no city, but contains twenty-seven market towns. It lies in the province of York and diocese of Chester, and contains sixty parishes, as appears by an ecclesiastical survey made in the reign of King James the First. The parishes are much larger than those of any other county in England, and very populous, and there are for that reason many chapels in this county, several of which are as large as parish churches. King Edward the Third made this a county palatine, in favour of his son John of Gaunt, and it has a court which sits in the Dutchy Chamber at Westminster, for the revenues of the Dutchy of Lancaster; and a Chancery Court at Preston: the seal of the county palatine is different from that of the dutchy, for there are lands in the dutchy that are not in the county. From the time that Lancashire was made a county palatine, Lancaster gave the title of Duke to a branch of the royal family, till the union of the houses of York and Lancaster, in the marriage of King Henry the Seventh, of the Lancaster line, with Elizabeth, heiress of the house of York.

The air of this county in general is more serene than that of any other maritime county in England, so that the inhabitants are strong and healthy, except near the fens and seashore, where sulphureous and saline effluvia, which on the approach of storms are extremely foetid, produce fevers, scurvies, consumptions,



tions, rheumatisms, and dropfies. There also certain tracts in the more inland parts of the county, which the inhabitants call mosses, that are moist and unwholesome.

The soil of this county on the west side generally yields great plenty of wheat and barley, and though the hilly tracts on the east side are for the most part stony and barren, yet the bottoms of those hills produce excellent oats. In some places the land bears some very good hemp, and the pasture is so rich, that both oxen and cows are of a larger size here than in any other county in England; their horns are also wider and bigger. In this county are mines of lead, iron, and copper, and of antimony, black lead, and lapis calaminaris; also quarries of stone for building. Here is likewise great plenty of coal, and a particular kind called *Cannel* or *Candle Coal*, which is chiefly found in the manor of Haigh, near Wigan. This coal will not only make a much clearer fire than pitcoal, but will bear a good polish, and when polished, looks like black marble; so that candlesticks, cups, standishes, snuff-boxes, and other toys are made of it. In some of the coal pits are found alum, brimstone, and green vitriol. The mosses or morasses of this county are generally distinguished into three kinds, the white, the grey, and the black, all which, being drained, bear good corn. They also yield turf for fuel, and marl to manure the ground. Trees are sometimes found lying buried in these mosses, and the people make use of poles and spits to discover where they lie. These trees, when dug up, serve also for firing, and they burn like a torch, which some people suppose to be owing to the bituminous stratum in which they lie; but others to the turpentine which they contain, being generally of the fir kind.

The chief rivers in this county are the Mersee, the Ribble, the Wire, and the Lon. The Mersee, rising in the mountains of Derbyshire, runs south-west, dividing that county from Lancashire, and being joined by a considerable stream called the Gout, which parts Derbyshire and Cheshire, and receiving the Taurie, the Irwell, the Bollen, and several other small rivers, passes to Warrington, whence, running westward, it falls into the Irish sea at Liverpool. The Ribble rises in Yorkshire, and running south-west, enters the county at Clithero. In its course this river is augmented by the Great Calder, the Hodder, the Darwen, and the Savock, and dividing Lancashire nearly into two equal parts, falls into the Irish sea not far from Preston.







Preston: In its mouth or æstuary, it receives a large river, formed by the conflux of the streams Taud, Dowglas, and Charnock. The Wire is formed by the Little Calder, the Broke, and other small streams, and running westward, falls into the Irish sea twelve miles north of the mouth of the Ribble. The Lon rises near Kirkby Lonsdale, a market-town of Westmoreland, and running south-west is augmented by several streams, and passes by Lancaster, near which it falls into the Irish sea at a wide channel, which also receives the rivers Coker and Condor.

This county has great plenty and variety of fish: upon the sea coasts are found codfish, flounders, plaise, and turbot; the sea dogs, inckle fish, and sheath fish, are taken upon the sands near Liverpool; sturgeons are caught near Warrington, and along the whole coast are found green-backs, mullets, soles, sand-eels, oysters, lobsters, shrimps, prawns, the best and largest cockles in England, the echim, torculars, wilks, and perriwinkles, rabbitfish, and papfish; and such abundance of muscles, that the husbandmen near the sea coasts manure their grounds with them.

Almost all the rivers in this county abound with fish; the Mersee in particular with sparlings and smelts; the Ribble with flounders and plaise; the Lon with the best of salmon; and the Wire is famous for a large sort of muscles called *Hambleton Hookings*, because they are dragged from their beds with hooks, in which pearls of a considerable size are very often found. The Irk, a small river that falls into the Mersee, is remarkable for eels, so fat that few people can eat them; the fatness of these eels is imputed to their feeding upon the grease and oil which is pressed by a number of water mills upon this stream, out of the woollen cloths that are milled in them. There are also several lakes in this county, which abound with fish, particularly Kennington Meer, about five miles from Winander Meer, in Westmoreland, which has very fine charrs and other fish.

The principal manufactures of this county are woollen-cloth, cottons, and tickens.

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## MARKET TOWNS.

LANCASTER is two hundred and thirty-three miles from London, and is situated near the mouth of the river Lon, over which



it has a fine stone bridge. It is a corporation governed by a mayor, aldermen, and burgesſes. It is a flouriſhing town, well ſituated for trade, and carries on a pretty brisk one; poſſeſſing about an hundred ſail of ſhips, ſome of them of good burthen, for the African and American trades. But the only manufactory in the town is that of cabinet-ware; here are many cabinet-makers, who work up the mahogany brought home in their own ſhips, and export it to the Weſt-Indies, &c. It is a town that encreaſes in buildings; having many new piles, much ſuperior to the old ſtreets, and handſomely raiſed of white ſtone and ſlate. The aſſizes are held in the caſtle, where is alſo the county gaol. The caſtle is a fine ſtrong building, but not very large: on the top of it there is a ſquare tower, commonly called *John of Gaunt's Chair*, from which there is a beautiful and extenſive proſpect of the adjacent country, and alſo of the ſea. Here is but one church, which is an handſome ſtructure, and ſtands on the top of the caſtle hill. Several utenſils uſed in ſacrifice, and a variety of Roman coins have been dug up here; and near the church, on the ſteepeſt ſide of the hill, hangs a piece of an old Roman wall, now called *Wery-Wall*.

MANCHESTER is one hundred and eighty-two miles from London. It is a place of very great antiquity. A town was raiſed here by the Romans, in the reign of Titus, in the ninety-ſeventh year of the Chriſtian æra; and long before this there had been a Britiſh town here, in the miſt of a foreſt.

Mancheſter is now a town of great trade; and the manufactories here are very conſiderable. The ſuſtian manufactory, for which Mancheſter has been long famous, is divided into numerous branches, of diſtinct and ſeparate work; particularly corded dimities, velvets, velverets, thickſets, diapers, and various other ſorts. Theſe goods are worked up of cotton, of flax and cotton mixed, and of Hamburgh yarn. All ſorts of cotton are uſed, but chiefly the Weſt Indian. The check and hat manufactories here are alſo very conſiderable: and all theſe manufactories employ men, women, and children. The number of ſpinners employed in Mancheſter and the neighbourhood is exceedingly great. They reckon thirty thouſand ſouls in this town, and fifty thouſand manufacturers employed out of it. It is ſaid, that America formerly took three-fourths of all the manufactures of Mancheſter.

Mancheſter

Manchester has an exchange, a spacious market-place, and two parish churches, St. Mary's and St. Anne's: St. Mary's is a collegiate church, built in 1422, and is a very large, beautiful, and stately edifice, with a choir remarkable for its curious carved work; and a clock that shews the age of the moon. St. Anne's church was begun by a contribution of the inhabitants in the reign of Queen Anne, and finished in 1723. The three most eminent foundations here are a college, an hospital, and a free-school. The hospital was founded by Humphrey Cheetham, Esq; and incorporated by King Charles the Second, for the maintenance of forty boys of this town, and the neighbouring parishes; but the governors have enlarged the number to sixty, to be taken in between six and ten years of age, and maintained, lodged, and cloathed, till the age of fourteen, when they are to be bound apprentices at the charge of the hospital. The founder endowed it with four hundred and twenty pounds a year, which in 1695 was improved to five hundred and seventeen pounds eight shillings and fourpence. He also erected a library in it, and settled one hundred and sixteen pounds a year on it for ever, to buy books, and to support a librarian. There is a school for the hospital boys, where they are taught reading, writing, and other useful knowledge.

The free-school was founded in the year 1519, by Dr. Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, whose endowment, by the purchase of an estate of the Lord Delawar, was considerably increased by Hugh Bexwick and his sister, who having purchased another estate of the same Lord Delawar, and the mills upon the river Irk, left them to the same free-school for ever. Here are three masters with liberal salaries; and the foundation boys have certain exhibitions for their maintenance in the university. Besides these public benefactions, here are three charity schools, two of which are for forty boys each. Here is a firm old stone bridge over the Irwell, which is built exceedingly high, because as the river comes from the mountainous part of the county, it rises sometimes four or five yards in one night. There are for three miles above the town no less than sixty mills upon this river; and the weavers here have looms that work twenty-four laces at a time; an invention for which they are indebted to the Dutch.



LIVERPOOL is two hundred and two miles from London. It stands upon the decline of a hill, about six miles from the sea. It is washed by the river Mersey, where ships lying at anchor are exposed to the sudden squalls of wind, that often sweep the surface from the flat Cheshire shore on the west, or the high lands of Lancashire that overlook the town on the east; and the banks are so shallow and deceitful, that when once a ship drives, there is hardly a possibility of preserving her, if the weather proves rough, from being wrecked even close to the town. This is the reason that so few ships anchor in the road; for the merchants endeavour to get them immediately into dock, where they lie very secure. The docks which are three in number, have been built with vast labour and expence: they are flanked with broad commodious quays, surrounded by handsome brick houses, inhabited for the most part by seafaring people, and communicating with the town by draw-bridges and flood-gates, which a man must be wary in crossing over, as they are pretty narrow. When the tide is full in, the bridges are drawn up, and the gates thrown open, for the passage of vessels inward and out.

Liverpool seems to be nearly as broad as it is long. The streets are narrow, but the houses are tolerably well built: some of them are faced with stone, and elegantly finished. This is a very populous place, and here is an infirmary and a playhouse. The exchange is an handsome square structure, of grey stone, supported by arches. In the upper part of the exchange are noble apartments, wherein the corporation transact public business. The court-room is remarkably handsome, large and commodious; here the mayor tries petty causes, and has power to sentence for transportation. The assembly-room, which is also up stairs, is grand, spacious, and finely illuminated: here is a meeting once a fortnight to dance and play at cards.

The principal exports of Liverpool are all sorts of woollen and worsted goods, with other manufactures of Manchester and Yorkshire, Sheffield and Birmingham wares, &c. These they barter on the coast of Guinea for slaves, gold dust, and elephants teeth. The slaves they dispose of at Jamaica, Barbadoes, and the other West India islands, for rum and sugar, for which they are sure of a quick sale at home.

PRESTON,

PRESTON, or PRIEST'S-TOWN, was so called from its having been inhabited by a great number of religious: it is situated on a delightful eminence on the bank of the Ribble, at the distance of two hundred and twelve miles from London. This town was first incorporated by King Henry the Second, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, eight aldermen, four under aldermen, seventeen common-council-men, and a town-clerk. It rose out of the ruins of Ribchester, now a village, but anciently a very considerable city in this neighbourhood; and is a handsome town, as large as some cities; and being the place of residence for the officers belonging to the chancery of the county palatine, is reckoned one of the prettiest retirements in England; it is a very gay place. Here is a stone bridge over the Ribble, and a charity-school for twenty-eight boys, and another for as many girls. On the neighbouring common there are frequent horse-races: and the market of this town is one of the most considerable north of the Trent, for corn, fish, fowl, and all sorts of provision.

CARTMEL lies among some hills called *Cartmel Fells*, at the distance of two hundred and fifty-eight miles from London. It has a church, which is built in the form of a cathedral, a harbour for boats, and a good market for corn, sheep, and fish. This town lying between two bays of the sea, one formed by the æstuary of the river Ken, from Westmoreland, and the other by the conflux of several small rivers from Westmoreland and Cumberland into the Irish sea, there are near it three sands, one called *Ken Sands*, denominated from the river Ken, another called *Dudden Sand*, from a river of the same name, and the third, on the like account called *Leven Sand*. These sands are very dangerous to travellers, who pass them frequently, they being the shortest way to several places they are bound to, both by reason of the uncertainty of the tides, which are quicker or slower according as the winds blow more or less from the sea, and by reason of many quick-sands, chiefly occasioned by much rainy weather; upon this account there is a guide on horseback appointed to each sand, for the direction of such persons as shall have occasion to pass over, and each of these three guides has a salary paid him by the government.



HAWKESHEAD is situated on the west side of Winander Meer, in a woody promontory called *Fourness*, in the most northern part of this county, at the distance of two hundred and seventy-one miles from London. Dr. Gibson is of opinion that *Fourness* should be written *Furness*, or *Fournage*, and that the name is derived from the many furnaces which were anciently in this place, as the rents and services at this day paid for them, under the name of *Bloom Smithy Rents*, still testify. Here is a good market for provisions and woollen commodities, and a free grammar school, endowed by Edwin Sands, an Archbishop of Canterbury, who was born near it.

NEWTON is at the distance of one hundred and eighty-seven miles from London, and is an ancient borough by prescription, governed by a steward, bailiff, and burgesses. This town had once a market, but it is now disused; and it is now remarkable only for chusing two members of parliament, who are returned by the steward of the lord of the manor, and for a charity school, founded in the year 1707, by one Hornby, a yeoman of this place, and endowed with two thousand pounds, where children are taught to read, write, and cast accompts, and are allowed a dinner every school-day; and there are ten boys and ten girls lodged in a neighbouring hospital, where they are provided with all sorts of necessaries till they are fourteen years old.

WARRINGTON is distant from London one hundred and eighty-two miles, and is a pretty large, neat, old built, but populous and rich town, with a fine stone bridge over the Mersey, and a charity-school, where twenty-four poor boys are taught and cloathed, out of an estate given by Peter Leigh, Esq. Some of the boys are taught grammar until they are old enough for apprenticeship. This town is full of good country tradesmen; and in its neighbourhood there is a fine linen manufacture, called huckaback, of which, it is said, five hundred pounds worth, or more, is generally sold here at a weekly market, kept here for that purpose. The market for provisions is served with great plenty of all sorts of fish, flesh, corn, and cattle, and the malt here is remarkably good. There is a dissenting academy here of considerable reputation. The learned Dr. John Taylor, of Norwich, well known for  
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his valuable theological publications, was formerly one of the tutors at this academy.

HORNBY is situated on the river Lon, at the extremity of the county, next to Westmoreland, at the distance of two hundred and forty-three miles from London. It contains little that is remarkable except the remains of an ancient castle, beautifully situated on a hill, round the bottom of which runs a river, called *The Winning*.

ORMSKIRK is two hundred and five miles from London, is an handsome town, and has a good inland trade. This place is chiefly noted for a bituminous earth, from which an oil resembling that of amber is extracted, that preserves raw flesh, and serves the country people instead of candles; and in the adjacent country there is a mineral spring, called *Maudlin Well*, handsomely walled in and covered, the waters of which have performed notable cures. It is impregnated with sulphur, vitriol, oker, and a mineral salt. It used to throw up marine shells in great quantities, notwithstanding it is situated far from the sea, or any salt rivers, till they found a way to keep them down together with the sand, by laying mill-stones upon the spring.

WIGAN, or WIGGIN, is a corporation town, pleasantly situated near the source of the Dowglas, at the distance of one hundred and ninety-five miles from London, in the post-road to Lancaster. Here is a stately church, well endowed; and the rector of it is always lord of the manor. It is a neat well-built town, is famous for the manufacture of coverlets, rugs, blankets, and other sorts of bedding, and for its pit-coal, and iron-work; and is inhabited chiefly by brasiers, pewterers, dyers, and weavers.

POULTON is two hundred and twenty-nine miles from London, and is conveniently situated for trade, being not far from the mouth of the Wire, and just by the Shippon, which runs into it.

ULVERSTON is situated on the west side of the large bay that runs up through this county, at the distance of two hundred and sixty-five miles from London.

PRESCOT



PRESCOT is a pretty large, but not a populous town, at the distance of one hundred and ninety-four miles from London.

ROCHDALE derives its name from its situation in a valley, on a small river that falls into the Irwell, called *The Roch*. The valley in which this town stands is at the bottom of a ridge of hills, called *Blackstone Edge*, which are so high, that they are sometimes covered with snow in the month of August. This is a pretty large and populous town, is of some note for its woollen manufactory, and is one hundred and ninety-five miles from London.

KIRKHAM stands on the north-side of the æstuary of the Ribble, at the distance of two hundred and twenty-one miles from London. It is situated in that part of the county called *Field Land*, between the Ribble and a little river some miles south of Lancaster. In many places on this coast the inhabitants gather great quantities of sand, which having lain some time, they put into troughs with holes in them, pour water on it, and boil the water into a white salt. Here is a free grammar-school, well endowed by Mr. Colborn, a citizen of London, in 1674, with three masters, one of whom must be in holy orders, and preach a lecture once a month in the mother church, or in some chapel in the parish.

BURY is one hundred and ninety miles from London, and is a town of good trade, situated on the Irwell; it is employed in the fustian manufactory, and drives a considerable trade in a sort of coarse goods, called half-thicks and kersies, for which there is a great market, though the town lies out of the way, and at the foot of the mountains, so that otherwise it would not be much frequented.

BOLTON is a staple for fustians of divers sorts, especially those called Augsburgh and Milan fustians, which are brought to its markets and fairs from all parts of the country. It stands at the distance of two hundred and thirty-seven miles from London, and has medicinal waters. The old Earl of Derby was beheaded here for proclaiming King Charles the Second.

BLACKBOURN

BLACKBOURN derives its name from its situation on the bank of the Bourn, or river Darwen, which is remarkable for the blackness of its waters. It is two hundred and three miles from London.

BURNLEY is an inconsiderable town, two hundred and seven miles from London. It is situated in an healthy air, upon the bourn or river called *Great Calder*.

GARSTANG is two hundred and twenty-two miles from London, and is situated in the post-road between Preston and Lancaster.

CHARLEY is two hundred and one miles from London.

HASLINGDON is situated under the mountains, on the east-side of the county, at the distance of one hundred and ninety-five miles from London.

CLITHERO is two hundred and ten miles from London, and is situated at the bottom of Pendle Hill, near the source of the Ribble. Here are the remains of an ancient castle, which was built about the year 1178. Horses races are sometimes held on the adjacent moor.

ECCLESTON is two hundred and five miles from London.

COLNE is two hundred and fifteen miles from London, and is situated not far from Pendle Hill, on the east side of the county. It appears to have been very ancient, if not a Roman station, from the many coins, both of silver and copper, that have been cast up here by the plough.

DALTON is two hundred and seventy-one miles from London, and contains nothing remarkable.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

*Knowsley House*, near Liverpool, is the seat of the Earl of Derby. It was the seat of the Stanley family before the time of Henry the Seventh, for whose particular reception the oldest



oldest part of the present building was erected, on his intending to visit his father-in-law, then heir of this noble house. It is of a dark brown stone, and looks like an ancient castle. In the year 1731 there was added to it a brick wing, and a large range of stables. The front looks neat, and some of the apartments are handsome. Here is a large collection of pictures, bought abroad by a painter, whom the late Earl, who was a virtuoso, maintained several years in Italy to buy them. Here is an Hercules and Antæus by Rubens, and an holy family, by the same master; a Madona by Corregio; some ship pieces by Vandervelt; a very capital piece by Rembrandt, representing Belshazzar, amidst his concubines and courtiers, gazing at the hand-writing on the wall; there are also some good family pieces by Vandyke, Sir Peter Lely, &c. But some very capital pieces, which were at this seat, were spoiled by the falling in of part of the old building, some years since, in a storm.

Knowsley Park has a fine variety of ground, and good cover for the deer. A piece of water, deep and broad, expanding itself for above three miles, adds greatly to the beauties of the scene. On the top of the highest eminence in this delightful park, is a very neat summer-house, with four arched windows, opening upon as many elegant and extensive prospects. These landscapes are painted in the arch of each respective window. The room is all of oak, finely carved, the growth of the place. At about sixty yards distance, under ground, are a very convenient kitchen and cellar.

*Kirkby Crofs House* is the seat of Mr. Kirkby. It has been in the same family ever since the Norman invasion.

*Ashton Hall* is the seat of the Duke of Hamilton; *Shaw Place* and *Worsley* are seats of Lord Wilboughby of Parham; and *Croxteth Hall* is the seat of Lord Molineux.

A remarkable piece of antiquity in the neighbourhood of Ribchester, and which has been the object of much speculation, is an ancient fortification, which, because anchors, rings, nails, and other parts of vessels, have been dug up near it, is called *Anchor Hill*. As this hill is at a considerable distance from the sea, it is supposed that it was a rampart of the fortress of Coccium; and the broad and deep fosse under it,  
which

which leads towards the river, served as a canal for the boats that were to pass and repass the river, for the service of the garrison; and as we may reasonably suppose that there were a great number of such boats belonging to so large a fort and city, we may conclude that the Anchor Hill was a little dock for the building and repairing them.

In this hill have often been dug up Roman pateræ or bowls, consisting of a substance, said to be like that of the China bowls, adorned with flowers, and the figures of wolves, and some of them marked at the bottom FAB. PRO: which appears to imply, that they were made when one of the Fabii was Procurator or Proconsul.

Near Anchor Hill have also been discovered, a common sewer, and a floor laid with Roman tiles.

*Overburrow*, on the Lon, north-east of Lancaster, according to the tradition of its inhabitants, was formerly a very great city, and is thought to have been the *Bremetonacum* of the Romans; its antiquity is evident from the old monuments, inscriptions, chequered pavements, and Roman coins, that have been found in this place.

Not many years ago, in draining *Merton Lake*, which was several miles in circumference, and situated on the north side of the mouth of the Ribble, here was found at the bottom of it, eight canoes, somewhat like those made use of by the Indians in America, in which, it is supposed, the ancient Britons used to fish upon this lake.

At *Ancliff*, about two miles from Wigan, there is a curious phænomenon, called *The Burning Well*, the water of which is cold; and has no smell; yet so strong a vapour issues out with it, that upon applying a flame to it, the top of the water is covered with a flame, like that of burning spirits, which lasts several hours, and emits so fierce a heat, that meat may be boiled over it: but this water being taken out of the well, will not emit vapours in a quantity sufficient to catch fire.

At *Barton*, near Ormskirk, there is a remarkable spring of salt water, a quart of which will produce eight ounces of salt, though a quart of sea water will yield but an ounce and an half.



In many parts on the coast near *Kirkman*, the inhabitants gather great heaps of sand together, which, after having lain some time, they pour into troughs, full of holes at bottom, pour water on it, and boil the lees into white salt.

About *Latham* is found a bituminous earth, which yields a scent much like the oil of amber; and an oil may be extracted from it, little inferior to that of amber, in its most valuable qualities. The country people cut it into pieces, which they burn instead of candles.

About a mile from Lancaster is a cavern called *Dunald-Mill-Hole*, a curiosity which is not perhaps exceeded by any thing of the kind in Derbyshire. It is on the middle of a large common, and you are led to it by a brook nearly as large as the New River, which, after turning a corn-mill just at the entrance of the cave, runs in at its mouth by several beautiful cascades, continuing its course two miles under a large mountain, and at last makes its appearance near Cranford, a village in the road to Kendal. The entrance of this subterraneous channel has something of both the pleasing and the horrible. From the mill at the top you descend about ten yards perpendicularly, by means of chinks in the rocks, and shrubs or trees. The road then leads to the right, a little winding, till you have some hundreds of yards thick of rocks, and mineral above you. In this manner you proceed, sometimes through vaults so capacious that you can see neither roofs nor sides, and sometimes on all fours from its narrowness, still following the brook, which entertains with a kind of harmony well suited to the solemnity of the surrounding horror.

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## LEICESTERSHIRE.

**T**HIS county is bounded on the north by Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire; on the east by Lincolnshire and Rutlandshire; by Warwickshire on the west, being parted from it by the old Roman military way, called *Watling-street*, near half way; and by Nottinghamshire on the south. It is about thirty-three miles in length, twenty-eight in breadth, and one hundred in circumference; and contains twelve market towns, two hundred parishes, five hundred and fifty-eight villages, and is divided into six hundreds. It lies in the diocese of Lincoln.

As the county is situated almost in the middle of England, and consequently at a proper distance from the sea, the air is very sweet and wholesome; neither is it encumbered with any standing waters, but washed by several streams; both which contribute to make it very healthy. The soil, except in the north-east part, is very good, and yields plenty of corn and grass, and abundance of the best beans. The south-east is but poorly supplied with fuel, but the north-east abounds with pit-coal, which with the vast numbers of sheep that feed on the mountains, makes ample amends for its other deficiencies.

Its principal commodities are corn, fish, flesh, fowl, wool, beans, and horses for the collar. The chief business of the inhabitants of the county is agriculture; but the stocking manufacture is greatly encouraged here, and turns to a good account.

The chief rivers are the Avon, the Soar, the Anker, and the Welland. The Avon soon leaves this county, and runs south-west towards Warwick. The Soar, which is the principal river of the county, first runs north-east by Leicester, till it has received the Wreke, and then turning to the north-west, falls into the Trent, where Leicestershire, Derbyshire, and Nottinghamshire meet. The Anker runs north-west to Atherston, on the edge of Warwickshire. The Welland



runs north-east by Harborough to Stamford. The Wreke rises in that part of the county, called *The Woud*, and runs westward into the Soar.

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## MARKET TOWNS.

LEICESTER, which is the county town, is ninety-nine miles from London; and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, a steward, a bailiff, twenty-four aldermen, forty-eight common-council-men, a town-clerk, and other officers. It had its charter from King John, and its freemen are toll free at all the markets and fairs in England. Under the Saxon Heptarchy it was the chief city of the Mercian kingdom, and was then the see of a bishop, but the see being removed, after a succession of eight prelates, it fell to decay; however, in the year 914, it was repaired, and fortified by new walls, after which it became a wealthy town, and had thirty-two parish churches; but rebelling against King Henry the Second, it was besieged and taken; the castle dismantled, and the walls thrown down. In the civil war the army of King Charles the First took it by storm, and it was soon after retaken by Sir Thomas Fairfax.

It is washed on the west and north sides by the river Soar, and is still the largest, best built, and most populous town in the county. It is said that Richard the Third, who was killed at the battle of Bosworth, was interred in it; and that his stone coffin has been converted into a trough for horses to drink at, belonging to the White Horse Inn in this town. In the High-street there is a cross, which is an exquisite piece of workmanship, in imitation of that on which our Saviour suffered. An hospital, that was built in this town for one hundred poor sick men and women, by Henry, the first Duke of Lancaster, who was interred in it, continues still in a tolerable state, being supported by some revenues of the Duchy of Lancaster, and it is capable of maintaining one hundred patients; but the most stately edifice here of its kind, is an hospital built in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, and endowed by Sir William Wigiston, a merchant of the staple here, for twelve men and as many women; it has a chapel, and a library, for the use of the ministers and scholars of the town.

town. Here is also another hospital for six widows, and a charity school.

Not far from the town is a castle, which though now dismantled, was a building of great extent, being the place where John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, held his court; he enlarged it with about twenty six acres of ground, inclosed it with a high wall, and called it *Novum Opus*; it is still called *Newark*, a corruption of *New-work*, and is the scite of some of the best houses in or near Leicester; these houses are extra parochial, as being under castle guard, by an old grant from the crown. The hall and kitchen of the castle are still entire; the town and county courts are held in the hall, which is so lofty and spacious, that at the assizes, the courts are so far distant from one another, as not to disturb each other. One of the gateways of this castle has a very curious arch, and in the tower over it is kept the magazine for the county militia.

The inhabitants of this town have greatly improved the manufacture of stockings, of which they weave vast quantities, so that in some years Leicester has returned sixty thousand pounds in that article only. The market in this town is one of the greatest in England for provisions, especially corn and cattle.

In a meadow near the town was formerly a monastery, founded, in 1143, by Robert Bossu, Earl of Leicester. Here the famous Cardinal Wolsey died. It is now a dwelling-house; and the only thing worth seeing is the terrace walk, supported with an embattled wall, with lunettes hanging over the river, and shaded with trees.

St. Margaret's church is a noble and elegant structure, and famous for a ring of six of the most tuneable bells in the kingdom.

In St. Martin's church is an epitaph on one Heyric, who died in 1589, aged seventy-six, lived in one house with his wife fifty-two years, and in all that time buried neither man, woman, nor child, though sometimes twenty in family; and the widow, who lived to be ninety-seven, saw before her death, which happened in December 1611, of her children, grandchildren, and great grand-children, to the number of one hundred and forty-three.

There is preserved in this town a remarkable piece of antiquity, which is a piece of mosaic work, at the bottom of a cellar. It is the story of Acteon's being killed by his own hounds,



hounds, wrought as a pavement. The stones are only of two colours, white and brown, and very small.

HARBOROUGH is eighty-three miles from London, and is a great thoroughfare in the road to Derby, near the source of the river Welland. It was famous in Camden's time, for its beast fair, and the best horses and colts are sold here. There are no fields belonging to the town, so that the cattle belonging to it are obliged to be kept in the next parish.

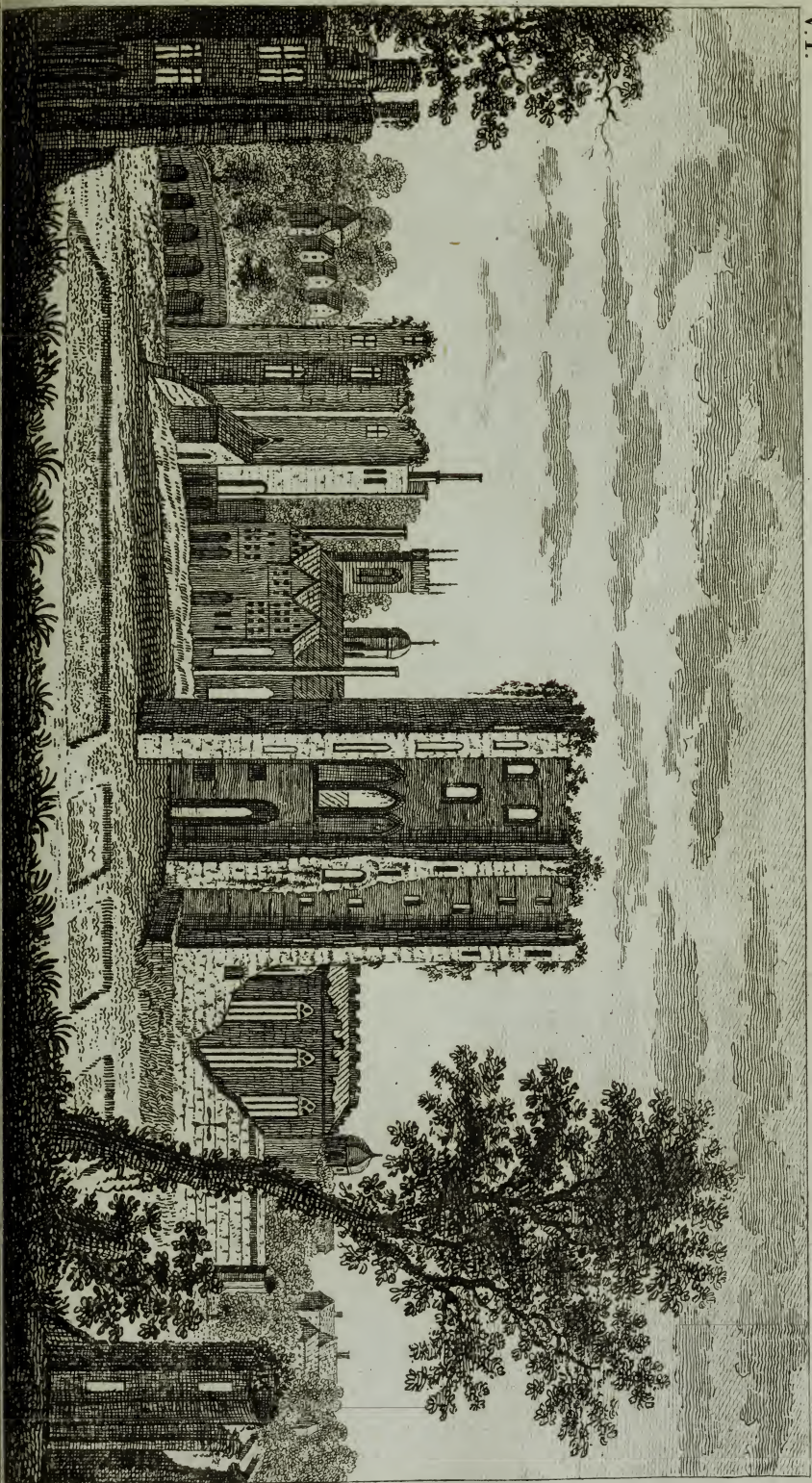
LOUGHBOROUGH is one hundred and ten miles from London, and in the time of the Saxons was a royal village. It is an agreeable town, with rich meadow ground on the fosse, which runs here almost parallel with the river Soar. Here is a large church, and a free school.

LUTTERWORTH is eighty-seven miles from London, and is pleasantly situated on a small stream, called *The Swift*, that falls into the Avon, a few miles below the town. It is a good town, and well inhabited, and the church is a noble Gothic structure, with a lofty spire, and in it is still preserved the ancient pulpit, in which the famous reformer John Wickliffe preached, he being many years rector of this parish.

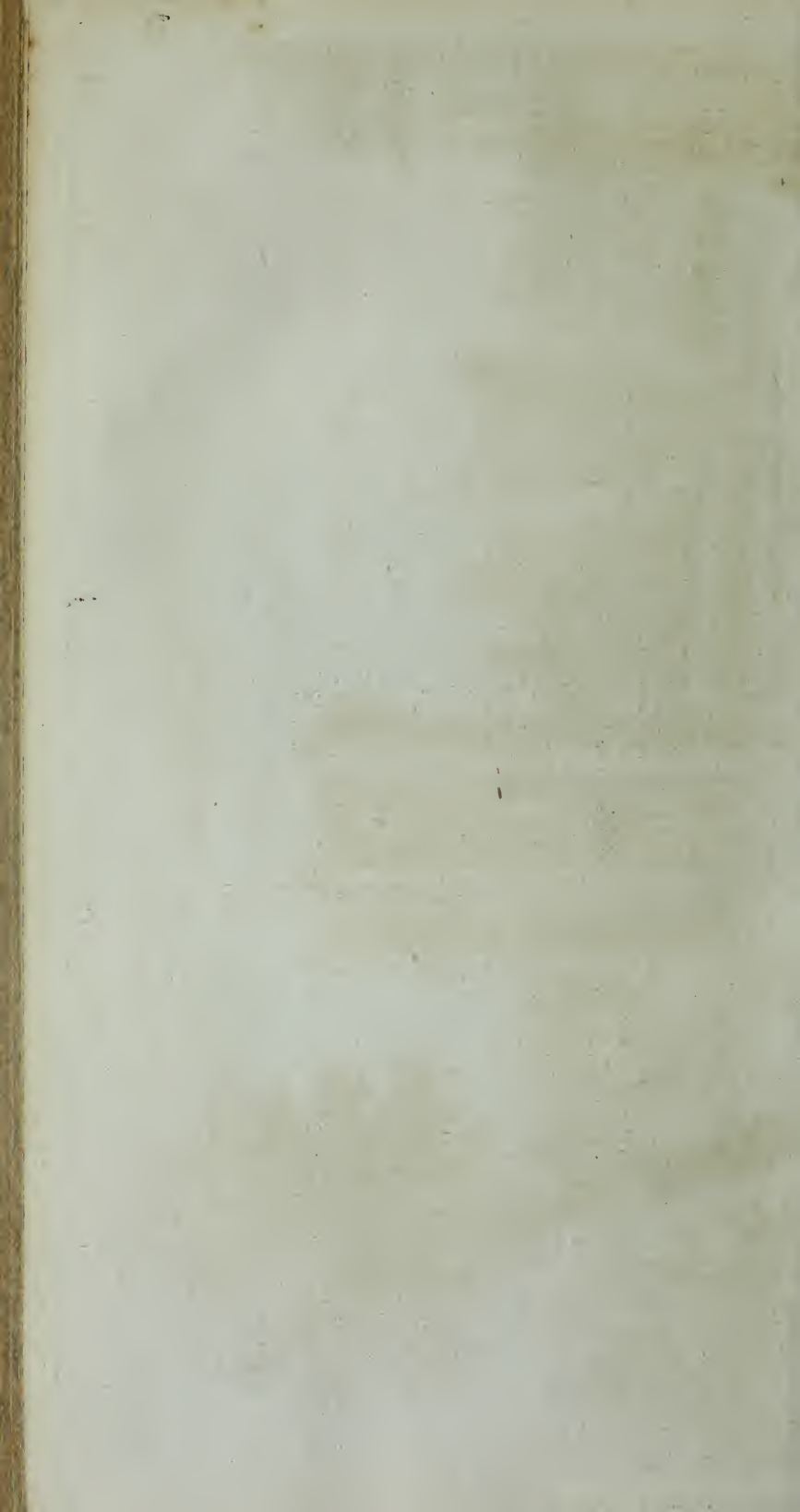
MELTON, which is also called MELTON MOWBRAY, from a noble family of the latter name, that were anciently lords of it, stands in a fertile soil, at the distance of one hundred and seven miles from London, and is almost encompassed with the river Eye. It is a large well built town, and has two fine bridges over the Eye, a large handsome church, and a free school. There are frequent horse-races, and the most considerable market for cattle, of any in this part of England.

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH is one hundred and fourteen miles from London, and is pleasantly situated. It has a large handsome church, and a neat stone cross in its principal street. It has also a free school, the master of which has an handsome stipend. From the remains of the walls of the Earl of Huntingdon's castle here, it appears to have been one of the best in England. James the First continued here with his whole court for several days; the dinner being served up every day by thirty poor knights, with gold chains and velvet gowns.

Near







Near this town is a noted mineral water called *Griffydam*. The fairs of this town are stocked with young horses of the largest and best breed in England; and the place is also noted for its ale, which is said to be as good as that of Burton. There is a considerable stocking manufactory here.

BILLESDON is ninety-seven miles from London, and though a small town, and much decayed, is of great antiquity. There are still the remains of a strong Roman camp in its neighbourhood, that encloses upwards of eighteen acres of ground, and appears to have been fortified with an high wall, and a deep ditch; but the greatest part of it is now demolished. It has been generally supposed, that one of the temples where the Romans met to sacrifice was near this camp, and Mr. Camden and Bishop Gibson are of that opinion.

BOSWORTH is one hundred and five miles from London, and is pleasantly situated upon an hill, in a wholesome air, and fruitful soil, both for corn and grafs. The field of action so noted in history for the decisive battle between the houses of York and Lancaster, in which Richard the Third was slain, was Redmere plain, three miles from the town, in which are frequently dug up pieces of armour, weapons, heads of arrows, &c.

HALLATON is ninety-three miles from London, but contains nothing remarkable.

HINCKLEY is situated near the borders of Warwickshire, from which county this part of Leicestershire is separated by the Watling-street-road. It was formerly superior in consequence to Birmingham. At present it contains seven hundred and fifty houses. The stocking manufactory in this town employs about one thousand frames. The church is a large and venerable structure. Here was formerly a priory and a castle. The latter is traditionally said to have been inhabited by John of Gaunt. It is one hundred and two miles from London. The assizes were formerly held here.

MOUNTSOREL, properly MOUNT-SOAR-HILL, derives its name from the river Soar, on the west of it, and an hill in the middle of the town. In the reign of King Henry the Third there



there was a castle here, which was seized and demolished by the country people, who had suffered much by the excursions of the garrison. This town is one hundred and five miles from London, and stands partly in Burrow parish, and partly in Rodeley parish, and had formerly two chapels, though it has now but one. Here is a bridge over the Soar.

WALTHAM ON THE WOULD is situated near an hilly healthy tract, called *Wrekin in the Would*, at the distance of one hundred and thirteen miles from London.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

Near Loughborough the Earl of Huntingdon has a seat, which is adorned with wood and water. The house is old, and not so well situated as could be wished; but the park is esteemed one of the most beautiful in the kingdom.

At *Stanton Harold*, two miles north of Ashby de la Zouch, is a noble seat of Earl Ferrers, so large that it appears like a little town. The gardens are adorned with statues.

At *Groby*, five miles from Leicester, the Earl of Stamford has a fine park and seat; as has also the Earl of Cardigan, at *Stanton-Brudenell*, four miles from Bosworth.

About three miles from Hinckley, is a village called *Higbam*, near the Roman highway, where, when a labourer was digging in the year 607, he struck against a flat stone, which being removed, he found concealed under it two hundred and fifty pieces of silver coin of Henry the Third, each weighing about three pence. In digging further he also discovered three curious rings. Some pieces of Roman coin of the Emperor Trajan were also found under the stone, which has induced some of our Antiquarians to suppose that it was the base of an altar, it being the custom to lay coins under them.

A petrifying spring which is situated in the neighbourhood of Lutterworth, is one of the most remarkable curiosities which this county contains. The water of this spring is exceedingly cold, and so strongly impregnated with petrify-  
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ing qualities, that in a very little time it converts wood and several other substances into stone.

At *Collerton*, a village north-east of *Ashby de la Zouch*, there are some coal mines, which in the reign of King Henry the Eighth burnt for many years together, till the sulphureous and bituminous matter which fed the flame, was exhausted.

A few miles from *Ashby de la Zouch*, is *Chernwood-forest*, on the borders of which is a small village, called *Cherley*, where there was formerly a convent for friars hermits; and at present great part of the walls, adorned with curious carvings, are still standing; and at one end is a lofty tower, which is supposed to have belonged to the church of the convent.

The village of *Belton* is noted for its great fair for all sorts of cattle, on the Monday after Trinity Monday. In the reign of King Henry the Third, *Roefia*, wife of *Bertram de Verdun*, founded a stately abbey near this place, called *Grace Dieu*, for nuns of the Cistercian order, which continued to flourish in great splendour, till the dissolution of religious houses. Great part of this magnificent structure is still standing, and, with some modern additions, has been converted into the seat of a private gentleman.

*Claybrook*, a village north-west of *Lutterworth*, is supposed by the inhabitants to have been formerly a part of *Cleycester*, at the distance of one mile from that place, which in the time of the Romans was a flourishing city. Large foundations, consisting of square stones, have been discovered here, and Roman bricks and coins have been often dug up. It has been observed, that the earth, so far as the city extended, is of a darker colour than that beyond it, and so rich, that it has been used by the husbandmen in the neighbourhood for manure.

At a village called *Cassington*, near *Mountforel*, is an ancient funeral monument, in the manner of the Britons, before the arrival of the Romans. It consists of a mount of earth, about three hundred and fifty feet long, and about forty feet high. It is called *Shipley Hill*, from a great captain, who according to the traditionary report, was buried here. But some think it more probable, that this was raised to perpetuate



to commemorate the memory of a battle between the ancient inhabitants of the island, and the Belgian Britons.

*Willoughby Brooks* is a pleasant village, and is also noted for a barrow or funeral monument on a neighbouring hill. It is called by the people *Blackfield*, because the earth when dug up is of a blackish colour, which is the more remarkable, because that in the neighbouring fields is red. Many coins have been dug up here at different times, with other pieces of antiquity.

At *Sogs-Hill*, or *Sex-Hill*, seven miles from Leicester, six parishes centre, and here are the marks of the bounds. It is one of the Roman tumuli.



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## LINCOLNSHIRE.

**T**HIS is a large maritime county, bounded on the south by the river Welland, which divides it from Northamptonshire; on the north by the Humber, which separates it from Yorkshire; on the east by the German Ocean; and on the west by some parts of Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, and Rutlandshire. It is about sixty miles in length, thirty-five in breadth, and one hundred and eighty in circumference. This county is divided into three parts. The first is called *Holland*, comprehends the south-east part of Lincolnshire, and is again subdivided into three wapentakes or hundreds. The second is called *Kesteven*, comprehending the southern part of this county, which is by an ancient writer called *Ceostefnewood*, as it is supposed from a large forest that stood formerly within this division: It contains ten wapentakes or hundreds. *Lindsey*, the third, is called *Lindisfi*, by Bede, the British historian, as it is thought from the city of Lindum, or Lincoln: This division comprehends all the north part of Lincolnshire, and is subdivided into seventeen wapentakes or hundreds. The whole county is divided into thirty hundreds or wapentakes, and contains one city and thirty-one market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Lincoln, and comprehends six hundred and thirty parishes.

The air of Lincolnshire is different in different parts: in the middle of the county, and in the western parts, along the Trent, it is very healthy, but upon the sea coast it is bad, particularly in the south-east division, which is not only boggy and full of fens, but great part of it is under water, for which reason it is distinguished by the name of Holland.

The soil of this county is in general very rich; the inland parts producing corn in great plenty, and the fenny country yielding excellent pasture. Lincolnshire is remarkable for fat cattle and good horses, and also for excellent dogs, as well



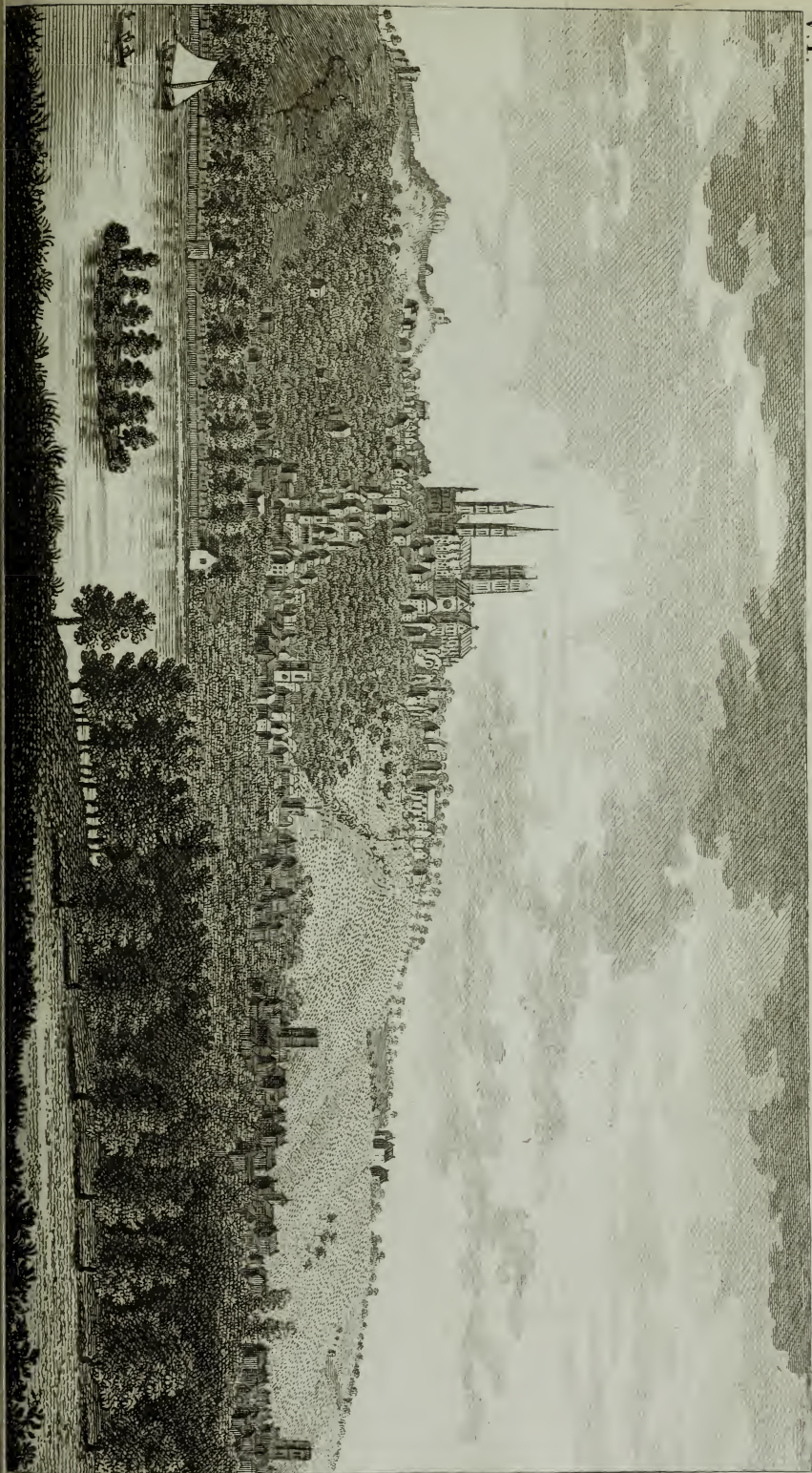
greyhounds as mastiffs. It abounds in game of all kinds, and the rivers, together with the sea, afford great plenty and variety of fish. There is a sort of pike found in the Witham, which is peculiar to this water, and superior to all others. Such is the plenty and variety of wild fowl in this county, that it has been called the aviary of England; and two fowls, called the knute and the dottèrel, which are most delicious food, are said to be found no where else in England.

The chief rivers that run through this county are the Welland, the Witham, the Trent, the Dun, and the Ankam. The Welland rises in Northamptonshire, and running across that county, enters Lincolnshire; then passing by several market towns, discharges itself into a bay of the German Ocean, called by Ptolemy *Metaris Æstuarium*, but called now the Washes. The Witham rises near Grantham, and running north-east, passes by Lincoln, whence directing its course south-east, it falls into the German Ocean near Boston. The Trent rises in Staffordshire, and running north-east through the counties of Derby and Nottingham, and parting Nottinghamshire from Lincolnshire, falls into the mouth of the Humber. The Dun rises in Yorkshire, and inclosing, together with the Trent, a considerable piece of ground in the north-west part of this county, known by the name of *The Isle of Axholm*, falls into the Trent near its conflux with the Humber. The Ankam rises not far north of Lincoln, and directing its course due north, falls into the Humber east of the river Trent.

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## C I T Y.

LINCOLN is one hundred and thirty-two miles from London, and was anciently called *Nicol*. It is situated on the side of a hill, at the bottom of which runs the river Witham in three small channels, over which are several bridges. Vortimer, the valiant Briton, who so often defeated the Saxons, died and was buried there. The Danes took this city twice by storm, and the Saxons as often retook it. In Edward the Confessor's time it is said to have had one thousand and seventy houses; and William of Malmesbury relates, that in the time of the Normans it was one of the most populous cities in England,







land, and a mart for all sorts of goods coming by land or water. King William the First built a castle here; and, about the same time, the bishop's see was translated hither from Dorchester, in Oxfordshire. This is still reckoned the largest diocese in all England, though Ely, Peterborough, and Oxford, have been taken out of it.

The cathedral was esteemed the glory of Lincoln; for its magnificence and elevation is such, that the monks concluded it would chagrin the devil to look at it; and thence a fly over look by a proverbial expression is compared to the devil's looking over Lincoln. The city formerly abounded with monasteries, churches, &c. so that many barns, stables, and even hogsties, seem to be the ruins of them, from the stone walls, and arched windows and doors. The river on the west side of the town below the hill forms itself into a great pool, called *Swan Pool*, from the great number of swans on it. The Roman north gate, called *Newport Gate*, still remains entire; it is a vast semicircle of stone, not cemented, but as it were wedged in together; and near this gate is another curious piece of Roman workmanship, called *The Mint Wall*, with alternate layers of brick and stone, still about sixteen feet high and forty long. In other parts of the city are many remains of the old Roman wall, and several funeral monuments of the Normans have been dug up over against the castle. To the west is an intrenchment made by King Stephen, and here are carved in stone the arms of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. In the centre of the old castle, which was built by the Romans, and repaired by the Saxons, is a modern structure where the assizes are held. The city is a county of itself, and has extensive power and privileges. On the down of Lincoln is sometimes seen that rare bird called the Bustard; the country hereabout is very rich and agreeable; the noble tract of Lincoln heath extending like Salisbury Plain above fifty miles. The cathedral or minster of Lincoln, is a stately Gothic pile of excellent workmanship, and reckoned by some equal to that of York, and was successively brought to perfection by several of its bishops. Here is the finest great bell in England, called *Tom of Lincoln*, near five ton weight, containing four hundred and twenty-four gallons ale-measure, and near twenty-three feet in compass. Among other tombs is one of brass for Queen Eleanor, wife to Edward the First, and another of Catharine Swinford, third wife of John of Gaunt, and mother of the  
Somerset



Somerſet family, now Dukes of Somerſet. This pile ſtanding on a hill may be ſeen fifty miles to the north, and thirty to the South, and is one of the largeſt in England; and the middle or rood tower is alſo reckoned the higheſt in the whole kingdom. The epiſcopal palace is a magnificent ſtructure, and was built by Remigius, firſt Biſhop of Lincoln.

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## M A R K E T T O W N S.

GRANTHAM is one hundred and ten miles from London, and is governed by an alderman, twelve juſtices of the peace, a recorder, a coroner, an eſcheator, twelve ſecond twelve men, who are of the common-council, and twelve conſtables to attend the court. This is a rich, neat, populous town, much frequented, and has ſeveral good inns. Here is a fine church, with a ſtone ſpire, one of the loſtieſt in England, being two hundred and eighty feet high; but is ſo conſtructed as to appear inclining from the perpendicular, on which ſide ſoever it is viewed. Here is alſo a good free-ſchool, built and endowed by Richard Fox, Biſhop of Wincheſter, a native of this place, beſides two charity-ſchools. On a neighbouring courſe there are frequent horſe-races.

STAMFORD is eighty-nine miles from London, and is a very ancient town. It ſends two members to parliament, and is a corporation, governed by a mayor, aldermen, recorder, and common-council. It boaſts of great privileges, being exempted from the juriſdiction of the ſheriff, and the lord-lieutenant of the county. It is alſo remarkable for one cuſtom obſerved in it, which is, that the younger ſons inherit what lands and tenements their fathers, who die inteſtate, were poſſeſſed of in this manor.

The town ſtands juſt where the three counties of Lincoln, Northampton, and Rutland meet. The river Welland is navigable to it by barges. On the ſouth bank of it was formerly a ſtrong caſtle, called *Stamford Baron*; and from a butcher's dog ſeizing a mad bull, and entertaining the Earl of Warren with the ſport, the cruel practice of bull-baiting took its riſe here; for he gave the meadow for a common to the butchers, on condition they ſhould find a mad bull ſix weeks before Chriſtmas. The town is finely ſituated on the declivity of a hill

hill to the river; has a stone bridge of five arches over the river Welland, a handsome hall, and six parish churches, in one of which, viz. St. Martin's, that famous statesman, Lord Burleigh, lies buried, in a splendid tomb; and in the church adjoining to the bridge is a fine monument of the late Earl and Countess of Exeter, in white marble, with their figures cumbent as big as the life, and done at Rome. The chief trade is malt, sea coal, and free stone.

BOLINGBROKE is one hundred and thirty-four miles from London, and is a small town, containing nothing worthy of remark; but is somewhat noted for having been the birth place of Henry the Fourth, who was surnamed from it Henry of Bolingbroke.

LOUTH is one hundred and fifty-five miles from London, and is a considerable town, pleasantly situated on a small stream, called the Lud, from whence it is supposed to have received its name. It was formerly famous for a Benedictine convent, founded by Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, Chancellor of England, in the reign of King Stephen; but there are no remains of it. The town is now handsome and populous, and the church is a noble Gothic structure, with a spire that is near three hundred feet high. Here is a free-school, founded by King Edward the Sixth.

GAINSBOROUGH is one hundred and fifty miles from London, and is a place of great antiquity, pleasantly situated on the river Trent, near the borders of Northamptonshire. It is a large, populous, well-built town, containing many handsome houses, and carries on a very considerable trade, by means of the Trent and Humber. The church is an handsome structure, built in the modern taste, and there are several dissenting meeting-houses here. The weekly markets are well supplied with provisions, and the market-place is handsome. Ships of considerable burthen come up to the harbour.

GRIMSBY is one hundred and sixty-eight miles from London, and is said, in point of antiquity, to be the second, if not the first corporation in England. It was formerly extremely populous, but is now greatly decayed; for the harbour having been neglected, no ships of burthen can come into it, so that the



the trade chiefly depends upon coals. The parish church is so large, that it looks like a cathedral.

BOSTON is one hundred and twenty miles from London, and is an ancient and famous town, built on both sides the river Witham, over which there is an high wooden bridge, a little below which the river falls into the sea. It has long been a flourishing town, and is said to have been incorporated first by King Henry the Eighth. Queen Elizabeth gave the corporation a court of admiralty over all the neighbouring sea coasts. It is governed by a mayor, who is chief clerk of the market, and admiral of the coast, a recorder, a deputy recorder, twelve aldermen, a town clerk, eighteen common-council men, a judge, and marshal of the admiralty, a coroner, two serjeants-at mace, and other officers. The town is pleasantly situated, and well built. Here is a church, reckoned the largest parochial church, without cross isles, in the world, being three hundred feet long within the walls, and one hundred feet wide; the cieling is of English oak, supported by tall slender pillars. This church has three hundred and sixty-five steps, fifty-two windows, and twelve pillars, answering to the days, weeks, and months of the year; its tower, which was built in the year 1309, is two hundred and eighty feet high, and has a beautiful octagon lanthorn on the top, which serves as a guide to mariners when they enter the dangerous channels called Lynn Deeps, and Boston Deeps in the Washes, and is the admiration of travellers, being seen at the distance of forty miles round. The town has a commodious harbour, is supplied with fresh water by pipes from a pond in a great common, called the West Fen, where a water house and a mill were erected in the reign of Queen Anne, by act of parliament. It is the residence of many considerable merchants, and carries on a good trade, both inland and foreign, yet many of the inhabitants apply themselves to grazing of cattle with great advantage. An annual fair is held here for cattle, and all sorts of merchandize, which lasts nine days, and is called a mart by way of eminence; and so are the fairs of Gainsborough, Lynn Regis, a borough town of Norfolk, and Beverley, a borough town of Yorkshire, but no other in England. All the country in the neighbourhood of this town is marsh lands, which are very rich, and feed vast numbers of large sheep and cattle.

HORNCASTLE,







**HORNCastle**, which is one hundred and forty-two miles from London, is a large and ancient well-built town on the river Bane. It plainly appears to have been a camp, or station of the Romans, not only from its castle, which was a Roman work, but from the Roman coins often turned up in the ground near the place where the castle stood. Part of the wall of the castle is still remaining, and is about four yards thick, and strongly cemented with mortar. There are several small streams here, so that about three parts of the town are surrounded with water.

**BURTON**, called also **BURTON STATHER**, is one hundred and sixty-eight miles from London, and stands very well for trade, on the east side of the Trent, whereon it has several mills, and the houses are pleasantly intermixed with trees; and many scenes about the place are exceedingly rural and romantic. Here are two churches, one of which is so low in respect of the precipice over it, that a person may almost leap from it on the steeple.

**CROWLAND** is ninety-four miles from London, and is famous for its abbey, which was first built by Ethelbald, King of Mercia, in the year 716. It was afterwards burnt by the Danes in 870; but King Edred, about the year 948, rebuilt it, and it continued in great wealth and splendour till the general dissolution. Great part of the abbey-church is still standing, though in a decayed condition, particularly the steeple, with the fine windows of the great western isle, adorned with carved work, and images as large as the life.

The town of Crowland stands among the fens, and consists of three streets, separated from each other by canals, planted with willows, which give it a very romantic appearance. There is a communication by a bridge over-against the west end of the abbey, built in a triangular form to answer to the streets. It is so curious a fabric, that it is not to be equalled in England, if it is in Europe. It is formed on three segments of a circle, meeting in one point, and each base they say stands in a different county, viz. Lincolnshire, Cambridge-shire, and Northamptonshire. It is also situated upon the centre of the conflux of the river Nyne with the Welland.

The greatest gain of the inhabitants is from fish and wild ducks; of which they sometimes drive three thousand into a



net at once by dogs; and they are brought thither by decoy ducks bred for the purpose. For the liberty of fishing, they pay now to the King, as they formerly did to the abbot, three hundred pounds a year. As no carts ever come here, by reason of the impassableness of the boggy soil, it was a common proverb, that all the carts which come to Crowland were shod with silver; but the soil is much improved of late by drains and sluices, and most of the ponds are now turned into corn fields. A causey leads from hence between the river Welland and the marshes; on which, about two miles from Crowland, there formerly stood a pyramid, with an inscription, denoting that it was the utmost boundary of the abbey's jurisdiction, which was a sort of island, three miles in length, and three in breadth. The roof of the abbey church fell down about seventy years ago. It was of Irish oak, finely carved and gilt; and pieces of it are still to be found in many houses. It was made a garrison during the civil war. Over the west gate of the church are the images of divers Kings, abbots, &c. and, among the rest, St. Guthliac, to whom the abbey was dedicated, with a whip and knife, his usual symbols; and he lies buried in a little stone cottage, not far from the abbey, called *Anchor Church House*, where there was formerly a chapel, in which he lived a hermit. There being no pasture near them, the people go in little skeries to milk the cows.

BARTON is one hundred and sixty-six miles from London, and is a large straggling town, of but little note, except for a common but dangerous ferry over the Humber to Hull.

WAINFLEET is one hundred and thirty-five miles from London, and is a well compacted town, situated in the fenny parts, near the sea. It is noted for having been the birth place of William of Wainfleet, Bishop of Winchester, who was not only the founder of a fine grammar-school here, but of St. Magdalen College, in Oxford.

SPALDING is one hundred and four miles from London, and is situated upon the river Welland, by which it is almost surrounded. It is also surrounded at a greater distance with lakes, canals, and other bodies of water, and is indeed a more neat and populous town than could be expected in such a situation  
Here

Here is an handsome large market place, a free grammar-school for the sons of the inhabitants, and a charity school. This town has also a small port, and a bridge over the Welland, which is navigable to the town for vessels of fifty or sixty tons. To this port belong several barges, that are chiefly employed in carrying coals and corn.

THONG CASTOR is one hundred and fifty-seven miles from London, and is said to have derived its name from the following circumstance, though the truth of the story itself has been disputed: Hengist, the Saxon, we are told, as a reward for having driven back the Scots and Picts, obtained from Vortigern, a grant of as much ground here as he could encompass with the hide of an ox cut into small thongs; on this ground he built a castle, which for that reason was called, *Thong Castle*. There are still considerable remains of the castle, which seems to have been built in the Roman manner; and under the walls are several fine springs, near which is a most beautiful grove of elms. The church is a venerable Gothic structure.

FOLKINGHAM is one hundred and seven miles from London, and is situated on a pleasant heath, in a very healthful air, and is supplied with several extraordinary good springs.

ALFORD is an obscure town, about five miles from the sea, and is one hundred and forty-six from London.

BINBROKE is one hundred and fifty-nine miles from London, and is situated between Thong Castor and Louth.

BOURN stands on a plain adjoining to the fens of Lincolnshire, at the distance of ninety-eight miles from London. It is remarkable for tanning leather, and for a horse course.

BURGH is one hundred and thirty-eight miles from London, and is situated between Salfleet and Wainfleet.

CORBY, which stands in the road from Market Deeping to Grantham, was formerly a considerable place, but is now much decayed. Here is a school endowed for educating the sons of poor clergymen. It is ninety miles from London.



HOLBEACH is one hundred and fifteen miles from London, situated among the fens, and of great antiquity. Many remains of walls and pavement, together with urns and coins, have been dug up here. The church is a noble Gothic structure, with a lofty tower and spire, and is seen at a great distance over the fens.

MARKET DEEPING is ninety miles from London, and is situated among the fens, on the north side of the river Welland. Near this place is a vale, many miles in compass, and the deepest in all this marshy county, from which it is thought this town had its name, *Deeping* signifying a deep meadow.

KIRKTON, or KIRTON LINDSEY, derives its name from a kirk or church here, which is built in the form of a cathedral, and is very magnificent. It stands at the distance of one hundred and fifty miles from London, and is famous for a sort of apple, called the Kirkton Pippin.

MARKET RASEN is one hundred and fifty miles from London, and is so called to distinguish it from *East, West, and Middle Rasen*, three neighbouring villages; all of which, together with this town, are situated near the source of the river Ankam.

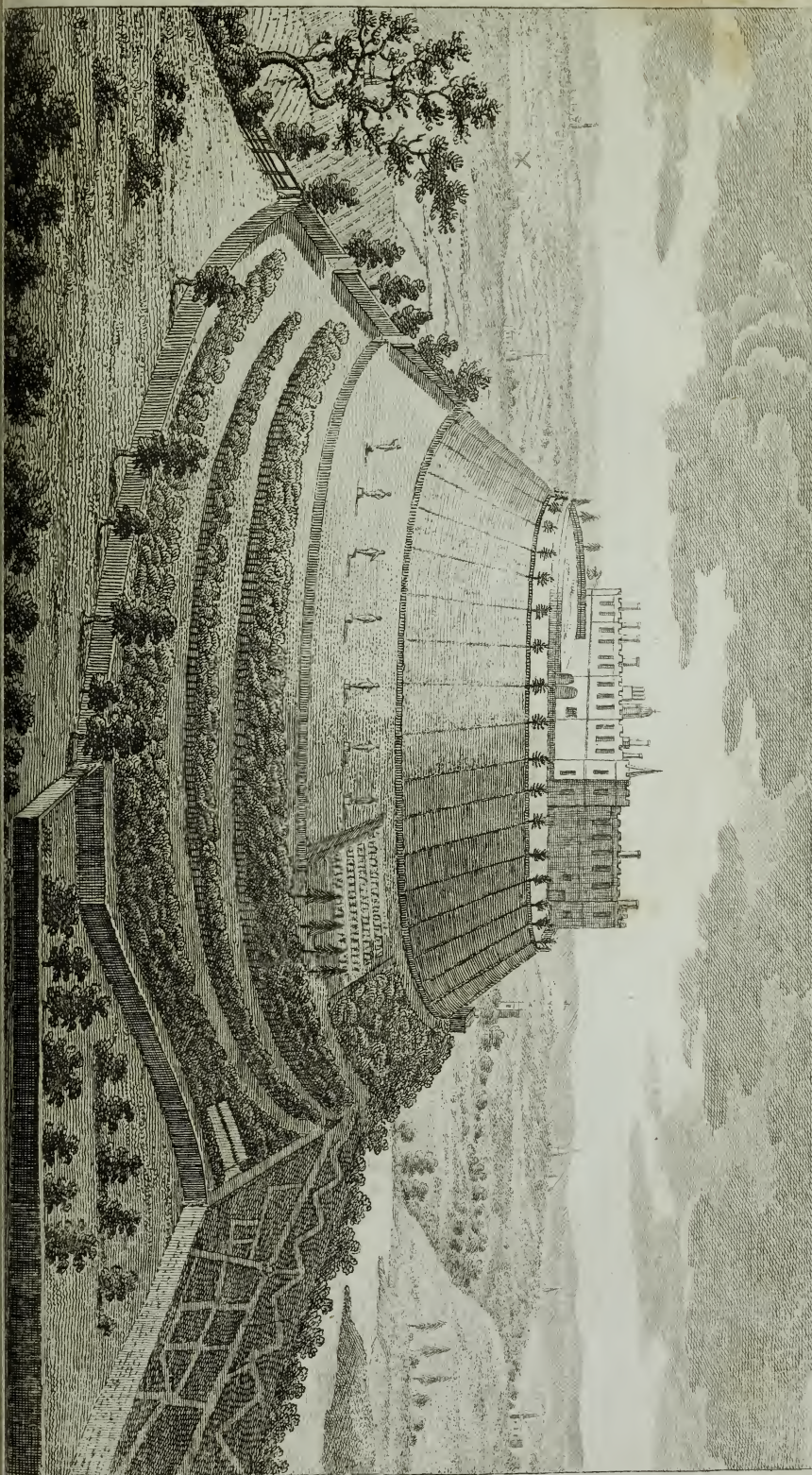
SALTFLEET is one hundred and sixty-three miles from London, and is pleasantly situated on the German Ocean. It was formerly a place of some considerable trade, but is now greatly decayed. It has still an harbour for shipping; but this has been much neglected, and there are now no vessels that use it above the ordinary size of lighters.

GLANDFORD BRIDGE is one hundred and fifty-six miles from London; situated on the banks of the river Ankam, and is a considerable town, containing some very good houses, with a stone bridge over the river.

DUNNINGTON is one hundred and seventeen miles from London, and its market is famous for a large sale of hemp and hemp seed. It has a port for barges, by which goods are carried to and from Boston and the Wathes.

SLEAFORD









SLEAFORD is one hundred and sixteen miles from London ; it is a large populous town, pleasantly situated near the source of a small stream, that rises from the confluence of springs, and runs through the town with so much rapidity, that it drives several mills, and is never frozen even in the coldest day in winter. The church is a stately Gothic structure, one hundred and seventy-two feet in length, seventy-two feet broad in the front, and thirty at the east end, and has a lofty tower. The market place is opposite the west front of the church, and near it is a good free-school, which was founded and handsomely endowed in 1603, by Robert Carr, Esq; who also erected and endowed an hospital in this place for twelve poor men.

TATTERSHAL is one hundred and thirty-four miles from London, and is a town of great antiquity, but now much decayed. It was formerly noted for a strong castle, built soon after the Norman invasion, which remained till the reign of Henry the Sixth, when Ralph, Lord Cromwell, built here a noble collegiate church. Great part of this stately structure is destroyed, except the great tower, which is adorned with four beautiful pinnacles, much admired by those who visit it. The thinnest part of the walls is fifteen feet in breadth, and the tower is two hundred feet high.

STANTON is an inconsiderable town, one hundred and fifty-five miles from London.

SPILSBY is one hundred and thirty-eight miles from London, and has a well-frequented market.

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#### REMARKABLE SEATS, VILLAGES, CURIOSITIES, &c.

*Belvoir Castle*, a seat of the Duke of Rutland, is about four miles from Grantham, and is seen almost in the clouds on the top of a vast hill, for many miles around. It is a very magnificent building, and has a fine gallery of paintings ; and, as its name imports, commands a beautiful prospect into the counties of Nottingham, Derby, Leicester, Rutland, and Northampton. It was originally built by Robert de Tedenci, or Tetencio, soon after the Norman invasion, and was afterwards



wards rebuilt by an Earl of Rutland. From the rooms of this house you have a very distinct view of Lincoln-minster, though it is thirty miles distant ; Newark is also seen in the centre of the valley ; and Nottingham is easily discerned.

*Grimsthorpe*, a seat of the Duke of Ancafter, is about eleven miles from Grantham. His Grace's park is of very great extent ; the road leads through it for the course of about three miles. The house appears extremely magnificent at the very first view, being admirably situated on a hill, with some very fine woods stretching away on each side ; many hills and slopes seen in different directions, and all pointing out as it were an approach to the dwelling. In the vale before the house is a noble piece of water, with two pretty yachts upon it ; and the banks are boldly indented with creeks in a fine stile. The house is extremely convenient, and some of the apartments are very elegantly fitted up. The hall is fifty feet long, by forty broad, and of a very well proportioned height. Here is a neat chapel ; and as you return through the hall, you are conducted up the stair-case, into the principal apartment : The first is a tea room richly ornamented with fluted pilasters of the Corinthian order, finely carved and gilt, the ceiling, cornices, &c. in a most light and elegant taste, with gilt scrolls on a light lead colour. Next is the dining room, forty feet by twenty-seven, with two bow windows fitted up with gilt ornaments on a blue ground. The ceiling the same, on white in compartments. The festoons of gilt carving among the pictures, &c. are in a light and pleasing taste. The chimney piece is one of the most elegant in England ; under the cornices are three basso relievos in white marble, the centre a man pulling a thorn out of a lion's paw, well executed ; these are upon a ground of Siena marble, and have a fine effect ; they are supported on each side by a fluted Ionic pillar of Siena. In this room are several family portraits, and King Charles the First, and his family by Vandyke ; a large and fine picture. In the next room is a painting of Cocles defending the bridge ; two landscapes ; a fine picture of a fire in a town, at night ; the figures in the front ground are numerous and well grouped, and the light is well expressed ; Christ crowned with thorns ; two large pieces of cattle ; a battle ; and a Dutch fair.

The

The blue damask bedchamber is elegant; it is hung with blue paper, upon which are painted many different landscapes in blue and white, with representations of frames and lines and tassels in the same; the toilet in a bow-window, all blue and white.

Out of this room you enter the breakfasting closet, which is extremely elegant; quite original, and very pleasing. It is hung with fine India paper, the ceiling in arched compartments, the ribs of which join in the centre in the gilt rays of a sun, and the ground is prettily dotted with coloured India birds; the window-shutters, the doors and the front of the drawers, let into the wall, all painted in scrolls and festoons of flowers in green and white and gold; the sofa, chairs, and stool frames of the same.

At *Asperby*, near *Sleaford*, the Earl of Bristol has a seat; as has also the Earl of Lincoln at *Sempringham*.

Within a mile of *Grantham*, in a delightful valley, stands *Belton*, a modern built house belonging to Lord Brownlow. It is one of the most regular and beautiful seats in this county, adorned with curious gardens and a large park. Here is a noble observatory, erected on an eminence, in the form of a triumphal arch, called *Belle Mount*, which affords a fine view of the country.

*Summer Castle*, on *Lincoln Heath*, was built by Sir Cecil Wray, and by the inhabitants is called *The Cliff*, being a high ridge of country, between a rich vale on one side, and the wolds on the other. Considering the general face of the country, which is uncommonly open, the view from Summer Castle is very fine; the vallies well wooded, and the lake is so formed as to unite very happily with the adjoining wood. It is a very fine water, above half a mile long, and of a great breadth, and the surrounding shores are truly beautiful. The groves of wood, the straggling trees, and the small enclosures, every where vary the appearance.

*Paunton*, a village south of *Grantham*, is supposed to have been the *Ad Pontem* of the Romans, not only from the similitude of the names, but from the distances assigned to places in regard



regard to this. Chequered Roman pavements, and other marks of antiquity, have often been dug up here.

*Bridgecasterton*, a village north-west of Stamford, where a small river, called the Guash or Wash, crosses the Roman highway, is supposed to have been *The Guafennæ* of the Emperor Antoninus.

*Ancaster* was a village of the Romans, and is thought to have been the antient *Crococalana*. This town abounds so much with remnants of antiquity, that it has been a custom for the inhabitants, after a hasty shower, to go in search of them upon the declivities of the town, and in the neighbouring quarries, and they have many years carried on a kind of trade by the sale of them.

At a village called *Hiberslow*, near Kirkton, upon the Roman highway, are still to be seen the foundations of several Roman buildings, with tiles, coins, and other remains of Roman antiquity. Several such remains have also been discovered about *Broughton*, a village near Glanford Bridge.

At *Roxby*, a village near Burton, some years ago was discovered a Roman pavement.

At *Winterton Cliff*, in the north-west extremity of this county, are many remains of Roman buildings.

At *Alkborough*, two miles more to the west, there is still a small square entrenchment or camp, now called *Countess Close*, from a Countess of Warwick, who, it is said, lived there, or owned the estate. The castle here, it is observed, was very conveniently placed by the Romans, in the north-west angle of the county, as a watch-tower, to overawe Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire.

At *Fleet in the Fens*, a village north-east of Spalding, there were found, not many years ago, three pecks of Roman copper coins, piled down edge-wise, most of them of the Emperor Gallienus.

Near

Near *Harlaxton*, a village within two miles of Grantham, a brazen vessel was ploughed up, containing some silver beads, and an antique helmet of gold, studded with jewels; all which were presented to Catharine of Spain, Queen Dowager of Henry the Eighth.

At a village called *Yarburgh*, near Horncastle, are the remains of a large Roman camp; and such quantities of Roman coins have been dug up here, that one Howson of Kennington, a village in the neighbourhood, is said at one time to have been in possession of some pecks of them.

At *Omby*, near Rasen-Market, in some fields joining to the great road between Stamford and Hull, a borough town of Yorkshire, brass and silver coins have been plowed up, having a view of the city of Rome on one side, with the inscription, *Urbs Roma*, and on the reverse, *Pax et Tranquilitas*.

On some hills, between Gainsborough and a neighbouring village called *Lea*, many Roman coins and pieces of Roman urns, have been dug up; and one of these hills called *Castle Hill*, is surrounded with intrenchments, said to inclose above an hundred acres.

Near *Humington*, above five miles from Grantham, there is a Roman camp, called *Julius Cæsar's Double Trench*; and here, in the year 1691, as many Roman coins were found in an urn, or earthen pot, as would fill a peck.

*The High Dyke*, commonly called *The High Street*, is the famous Roman highway, which passes from Stamford through Lincoln, and from thence to the Humber.

At *Gedney*, a village near Holbeach, is a very handsome church, supposed to have been built by the abbots of Crowland, to whom the manor belonged. It has a stately tower, but this is supposed to be of a later date than the other parts of the structure.

A few miles north-west of Tattershal is *Tupham*, or, as it was anciently called *Tupholm*, a considerable village, where



one of the family of Nevil founded a convent for monks of the order of St. Augustine, of which great part is still standing, and it appears to have been an exceeding handsome structure.

A little north of Cosham is *Newsham Abbey*, a small village, but famous for a convent of Premonstratensian monks, which was founded in the reign of King Stephen.

Near Burton, at the confluence of the Trent and some other rivers, is a tract of land called *The Island of Axholm*, which is about ten miles long, though in many places not above four in breadth. It contains three villages, namely, *Crowle*, *Epworth*, and *Hyrst*; and in the two last were formerly two monasteries.

*Torksey*, a village situated upon the Trent, at the influx of the Fosse Dyke into that river, was a place once famous for many privileges, which it enjoyed upon condition that the inhabitants should, whenever the King's Ambassadors came that way, carry them down the Trent in their own barges, and conduct them as far as the city of York.

In the neighbourhood of this village is a nunnery founded by King John, great part of which is still standing, from which it appears to have been a very handsome structure.

The village of *Stow* is a place of great antiquity, and is said to have been the see of a bishop before the cathedral of Lincoln was built. Here is an ancient Gothic church, exceedingly large.

North-east of Glandford Bridge, near the mouth of the Humber, are the remains of *Thornton College* or *Abbey*, where, in taking down a wall, not many years ago, the workmen found the skeleton of a man, with a table, a book, and a candlestick; the man is supposed to have been immured there for some heinous crime.

*Scrivelby Hall*, not far from Horncastle, is the manor of the Dymocks, who hold it upon condition, that at the coronation,

tion, the then lord, or some person in his name, if he be not able, shall come well armed into the royal presence, on a war horse, and make proclamation, that if any one should say, that the sovereign hath no right to the crown, he is ready to defend his right against all that shall oppose it.

About six miles east of Lincoln is a village called *Bullings*, where was a convent founded in the reign of King Henry the Second. Some of the walls of this structure are still standing, with a stately tower, executed in a very curious manner.

A little to the eastward of this village is another named *Wragby*, pleasantly situated on a small stream. Here is an alms-house, built and endowed by Sir Edmund Turner, in 1697, for twelve poor people, six of whom are to be ministers widows, and six to be any other poor old men or women; he also erected a chapel for their public devotion, with an endowment to the minister or schoolmaster, for performing divine service in it twice a day.

In the village of *Somerton*, a stately castle was built by Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham, a warlike prelate, who lived in the reign of Edward the First. The tower and some other parts of the building are still standing, from whence it appears to have been a place of great strength.

On the north-west side of Sleaford is a place called *Temple Bruer*, where there are the remains of a church, built by the Knights Templars; and near it are the remains of a stone cross.

*Woolsthorpe*, a little village on the great north road between Stamford and Grantham, is memorable for being the place of nativity of that illustrious philosopher, Sir Isaac Newton. The house in which he was born, which is a kind of a farmhouse, built of stone, is still remaining. The learned Dr. Stukeley visited it in 1721, and was shewed the inside of it by the country people; and in a letter to Dr. Mead on this occasion, he says, "They led me up stairs, and shewed me Sir Isaac's study, where I suppose he studied when in the coun-  
try,



“ try, in his younger days, as, perhaps, when he visited his  
“ mother from the university. I observed the shelves were of  
“ his own making, being pieces of deal boxes, which, pro-  
“ bably, he sent his books and clothes down in upon these  
“ occasions.”

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

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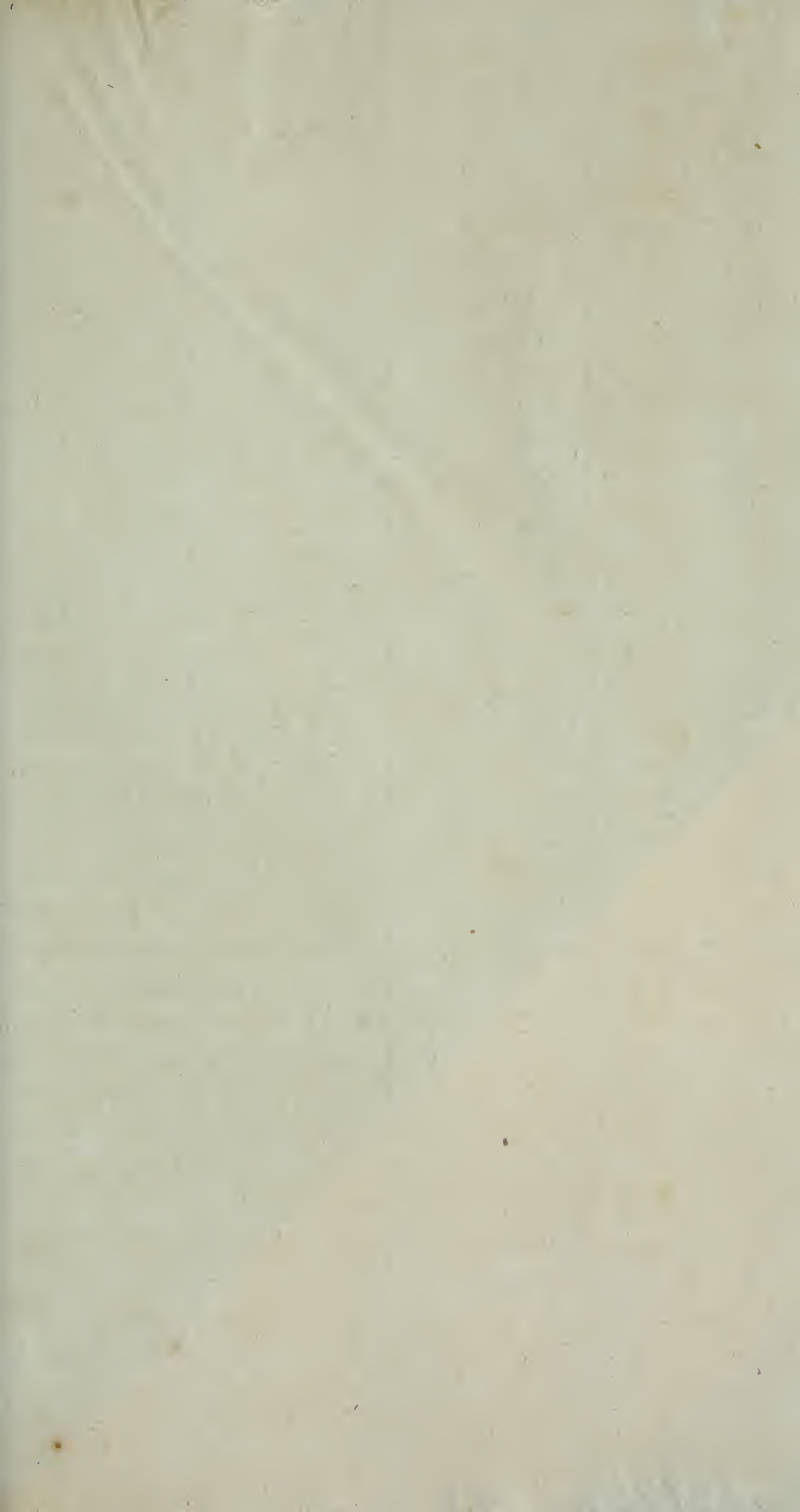
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